# WALSALL

Thursday, November 28, 2013

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# On your bike

Thoughts of former mayor in light of civic car bust-up Page 3



# All sewn up

Bagging the latest crafts with sessions by project



# **Saddlers denied**

Westcarr fails to score in game of mixed fortunes



# **Difficult** decisions for chiefs over cuts

COUNCIL bosses in Walsall have admitted they faced difficult decisions as the extent of the cuts to chil-dren's services was revealed.

dren's services was revealed.

Some 37 staff would be made redundant from children's centres, while some taxi journeys for families paid for by the council could also be cut to save £100,000.

The authority needs to save £19m in 2014/15, including £5m from the children's services department, and £100m over five years.

Councillor Rachel

and £ 100m over 1ve years.

Councillor Rachel
Andrew, portfolio holder for
children's services in Walsall
Council coalition, said: "It's
been well-documented that
the council needs to save
£100 million over the next five years meaning difficult decisions have to be made both now and in the years ahead.

"It's important to remember that all the savings options put forward are still proposals and no firm decisions have been made yet."

"Consultation has taken "Consultation has taken place with a wide range of people including residents, service users, councillors, the business sector, staff, voluntary and community organisations, and all the feedback will be presented to cabinet at its meeting on cabinet at its meeting on December 11.

"The final proposals, will then go to full council for approval in February."

### Community facility 18th

A COMMUNITY facility in Walsall town centre which includes a church, shopping mall and coffee shop is celebrating its 18th birthday.

The Crossing at St Paul's, in Darwall Street, has organised guided tours for pupils, as well as craft activities for youngsters, displays, music and free refreshments on Saturday.

On Sunday, there will be a

refreshments on Saturday.
On Sunday, there will be a special 18th birthday service. Rev Mark Kinder, the vicar of St Paul's, said:
"The 18th celebrations are a chance to say thank you to so many who have worked hard to make the Crossing a success."

# DOG ATTACK FAMILY IN LAW CHANGE CALL



**Assaults are** 

admitted by

man on bus

THE FAMILY of a girl mauled by a vicious Japanese Akita dog are now campaigning for a change in the law.

It follows the father's recounting of the dreaded moment when he watched as the snarling huge dog crept up and attacked his nine-year-old daughter like a 'tiger hunting its prey'.

Actions and stacked his nine-year-old daughter like a 'tiger hunting its prey'.

Without a moment of hesitation, 37-year-old web designer Simon Hryhoruk lunged into action, as he tried to pull the dog by the neck in a desperate attempt to loosen its fierce grip from Amy's head.

Following their ordeal, the Hryhoruk family, led by Amy's grandfather Peter, a retired Army colonel from the Royal Corps of Signals, now want to see dog owners be liable for their pets' actions – not whoever happens to be in the house at the time.

Amazingly, Amy suffered no facial injuries but her father has been left with scarring on his arms and legs. Japanese Akitas, which can weigh up to nine stone, are not classified as dangerous under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

Pensioner Nirmal Singh, 60, who also lives in Lichfield Road, Rushall, was fined \$77,653.81 and £1,200, after admitting being responsible for the dog at the time of the attack despite the pet actually belonging to his son Amrit Pal.

Mr Hryhoruk senior said: "While we welcome this conviction and the punishment given, we do feel sympathy for Mr sow the seat by here," said Mr save the bus but hake.

Mr Hryhoruk is going to write to Home

carry the can so to speak simply because his son who owns the dog was not in."

Jumping

Mr Hryhoruk is going to write to Home Secretary Teresa May and ask for the law to be changed using the case as an example.

On the attack itself, Simon Hryhoruk said: "I literally had just got back to the house when I saw the dog slowly approach Amy, before sprinting and jumping on her. It knocked her over flat and started mauling her. Luckily she had turned away. It was just like how you see a tiger hunting its prey on a David Attenborough programme."

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard he 'predatory' beast – described as one of the most dangerous dogs ever seized by West Midlands Police – had escaped the home of pensioner Singh before crossing the road and 'stalking' Amy who was waving goodbye to her grandmother on the driveway.

As a result of the attack, Rushall JMI pupil Amy suffered bite marks to the back of her head and required stitches.

A MAN has admitted sexually assaulting women as they travelled on buses in the Black Country. Mr James Dunstan, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that Zeeshan Ali approached his first victim on May 9 at Walsall bus station.

When her bus arrived, she got on and sat down, and despite there being plenty of other seats the 24-year-old sat next to her. "He had put his arms across the seat by her shoulders and left it there," said Mr Dunstan. He then got up to leave the bus but put out his hand for her to shake.

He said: "Out of politeness she went to shake it, and he pulled her towards him, and put his face next to hers as if to kiss her cheek, but then tried to kiss her lips."

The girl went to the police. On June 20 a 29-year-old woman was on a bus from Walsall to Wolverhampton at 12.40pm when Ali sat next to her. Mr Dunstan said: "He went to put his jacket on his lap. She then felt her right thigh being rubbed."

On August 4 a third victim suffered a similar fate to the first, it was heard. Ali, of Lichfield Road, Walsall, eventually pleaded guilty. Miss Sarah Allen, defending, said Ali had already spent three months in custody. Judge John Warner sentenced him to a community order for three years with supervision, and said he is to go on a sex offenders treatment programme. He was also ordered to pay a £60 victim surcharge.

# Tree tops for church festival



Susan Briggs and Anne Newport launch the Christmas Tree Festival at St Michael's

A CHURCH will be transformed into a winter grotto when a Christmas tree festival gets under way.

It is the first time that St Michael & All

It is the first time that St Michael & All Angels Church in Pelsall has held such an event. The festival will bring together the church, the three village schools, local busi-nesses and other community groups. The sponsors will decorate their trees at the Hall Lane church on the evening of

Monday, December 16. The spectacle can then be viewed by the public at various times during the week. Refreshments will be available and there will be a shop selling hand-crafted gifts and decorations.

Entrance to the festival is free but for £1

visitors can vote for their favourite tree. The winner will be awarded the Tree Festival Cup at a special event on Saturday, December 21.

# **Contract** delays for finish at town park

THE FINAL phase of the revamp of Walsall Arboretum, which will see a visitor

tum, which will see a visitor centre built, has hit further delays.

Work is yet to start on the fifth and final piece in the £7.6 million revamp as negotiations with the contractor are still being finalised, council bosses have said.

council bosses have said.

It comes after the work was previously delayed because of nesting birds, but it was thought it would finally get off the ground at the end of September.

The work had been expected to start at Easter and the visitor centre had originally been due to open later this year and be fully operational in 2014.

Work on the showpiece visitor centre was delayed with council chiefs amouncing they did not want to

with council chiefs announcing they did not want to disturb wildlife and had to carry out work to stabilise an embankment at the park to make the area safe first.

Council bosses now say that talks with contractors are expected to be resolved soon to allow the final stage of the restoration programme to push ahead.

Councillor Anthony Harris, Walsall Council's portfolio holder for leisure and culture, said: "Work has not started on the visitor centre yet as we are in advanced negotiations with the contractor over the terms of the contract."

### Chamberlin in £1m loss

FOUNDRY and engineering company Chamberlin has plunged to a £1 million loss and announced a cost-cutting programme as it cancelled its half-year dividend payout to shareholders.

Revenue slumped by 14 per cent at the Walsall-based firm over the last six months to £19.5m, driving Chamberlin to a loss of £1.16m.

It compares to a £786,000 profit at the same point a year ago. Problems centre on its Leicester and Scunthorpe foundries, while its Walsall foundry, was more resilient.

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# Sleigh day for Tyler after winning contest



CHRISTMAS came early for one lucky young shopper on Saturday a magnificent pop-out 3D tree when Tyler Fletcher aged eight, won a special Santa sleigh ride.

CHRISTMAS came early for one lucky young shopper on Saturday when Tyler Fletcher aged eight, won a special Santa sleigh ride. His was chosen as the best entry in Walsall's Victorian Arcade Shopping Centre's 'design a Christmastree' competition.

Running throughout November, the competition called on children aged 11 and under to draw, paint, colour or decorate the tree they would like to wake up to on Christ-

canes and baubles.

As part of the prize, Tyler rode through town alongside Santa in a festive sleigh, drawn by two magnificent shire horses. What's more, he received a host of early presents including a remote controlled car, XBOX 360 game, Lego and a selection of sweets. Tyler's school, Castlefort primary, was also

awarded £100 to spend towards Christmas decorations.

Tyler said: "It was fun being able to sit next to Santa on his special sleigh and wave to all the people shopping in Walsall. I'm very excited about Christmas now."

A selection of the entries are displayed in Santa's grotto situated between The Works and Acorns Charity shop, open every Saturday from 10am-3pm. Entry costs £2.50 and includes a gift from Santa.

# **Grant for** college to help work projects

A COLLEGE has scooped a £15,000 grant which will be used to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs and help students set up their own community projects.

Teenagers at Walsall College are setting up social enterprises including a T-shirt printing venture, healthy eating workshops and cupcake shops.

The college in Littleton Street West, is the only campus in the region to receive funding as part of the project which is being run by the FE Pioneer fund and UnLtd which offers help to social enterprise schemes.

to social enterprise schemes Help will be offered to stu

to social enterprise schemes. Help will be offered to students aged 16 to 21 through the Enterprise Hub who set up their own projects in the community.

Cash will be dished out based on a range of criteria including students' passion to make a change in the local community. The project has been launched to coincide with Global Entrepreneurship Week and an enterprise fair was held at the college's Wisemore Campus.

UnLtd award manager Andy Haynes said: "We are excited to be supporting the college as it works with students to develop enterprises that will make a positive social develop that the transfer of the project that will make a positive social develop enterprises that will make a positive social develop enterprise.

that will make a positive social change to the commu-

# **Jobs saved**

A SECURITY firm in Walsall has been bought by an expanding rival in a deal

60 staff.
Roscot Security, based in
Short Acre Street, has been
bought by Solihull company
Integrity Security Group in
a move to strengthen its customer base. All 60 staff and
existing contracts have been
maintained.

maintained.
Will Adams, director of
Integrity Security Group,
said: "We are delighted to
have taken over the operation of such a successful and
well-respected business."

that secures the jobs of all its 60 staff.

#### **Station visit**

GIRL Guides from Delves were given a tour of Walsall police station – including a cell dressed with fake blood cell dressed with fake blood and vomit to show them what custody officers may encounter on their shift. They were also shown the exercise yard and tasted food given to people in custody.

# Raids uncover stashes of legal goods worth £33k

A HAUL of illegal goods worth more than £33,000 has been seized during raids on a market and two shops in Walsall

Designer clothing, sunglasses and cigarettes were among the goods discovered by Trading Standards officers and Walsall Police during separate raids at Bescot Market and shops in Caldmore and Birchills. Around 35,000 illegal cig-

# Powers for dealing with yobs used on 20 occasions

NEW powers to tackle yobs who have been plaguing two Walsall neighbourhoods by taking drugs, drinking and fighting have been used 20 times in the five months since they were launched, it has been revealed

has been revealed.

A dispersal order has been granted to deal with problems around Reedswood and

Beechdale.

It follows a series of complaints from residents that their lives were being made a misery by yobs. Police revealed there had been a total of 20 dispersals since June, with seven being carried out in June, one in July, nine in August and three in September. There were none in October.

The order runs until January 1 and allows officers to move on groups of two or more people suspected of anti-social beautiful in the properties. Anyone under the age of 16 can be taken back to their home address if caught causing trouble between 9pm and 6am.

Troublemakers who persistently break the order could be forced to leave the area and could be arrested.

Pc Steve Kidd said: "Sadly the actions of a few individuals have a negative effect on the whole community." It follows a series of com-

als have a negative effect on the whole community."



in various hiding places.

in various hiding places.

A tobacco detection dog was brought in to help with the search. Half a dozen packets of cigarettes were seized from a shop in Birchills during Operation Dalmatian, also on Monday afternoon.

Meanwhile, officers uncovered items purporting to be well-known brands such as Ugg boots, Converse trainers, Dr Dre Beats headphones, Ralph Lauren, Fred Perry and Lacoste knitwear, Louis Vuitton belts and Ray-Ban sunglasses at Bescot

Louis Vuitton belts and Ray Ban sunglasses at Bescot Market on Sunday.

Officials say had the items been genuine, they would have been worth more than £20,000. Officers also discovered some counterfeit tobacco, which was taken away after a search was conducted of a number of vehicles at the market.

Councillor Zahid Ali, portfolio holder for public protection at Walsall Council, said people should be wary of

said people should be wary of said people should be wary of buying items that seemed to be a bargain. He added: "Fake goods are often of poor quality and as a basic rule if the deal seems too good to be true it probably is." He pledged that the council would continue to crack down on the sale of counterfeit goods in the borough.





# Town fire station may be rebuilt

BLOXWICH Fire Station could be rebuilt under new plans which have been unveiled. New proposals drawn up by West Mid-lands Fire Service would see a former bank

which is on the site of the current base on the High Street either revamped and sold

the High Street either revamped and solo off, used as a training base or bulldozed. If the site is cleared then it could provide an 'opportunity' to see the current station rebuilt. The move is part of a review of the buildings owned by the fire service which would see firefighters' training take place at stations or in the community instead.

A report on the issue stated if the bank site was knocked down it may create an opportunity to build a new station and sell the existing station plot which is on land behind the bank.

Fire authority member and Walsall coun-cillor Keith Chambers said fire chiefs were cillor Keith Chambers said fire chiefs were looking at selling off the bank site and said no decision had been taken over whether the main station would be rebuilt.

He added: "This building is not serving any purpose at all. It is a good decision to dispose of it to generate capital receipts."



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# **Ex-police** officer in abusive messages

THERE was 'no excuse' for an ex-police officer and council worker to bombard a former colleague with abusive text messages and phone calls, a court heard as she was found guilty of harass-

ment.
Claire Horsley, aged 37, targeted her victims after being sacked by Walsall Council. She picked on two police officers who lived near police officers who lived near her home in Little Haywood Stafford.

Stafford.

One of them was described by prosecutor Mrs Moira Bell as "one of the most distraught witnesses I have come across."

She said there was 'no excuse' for Horsley's behaviour. Horsley began working at Walsall Council in 2006 after leaving Leicestershire Police Force in 2002.

She targeted Elizabeth

Police Force in 2002.

She targeted Elizabeth Moss and Thomas Clark, officers with West Midlands Police, despite never having spoken to them before.

The court heard she had also sent a barrage of abusive texts and calls to Joanne Mellor-Shaw after their friendship ended.

Horsley unsuccessfully tried to claim that she was the real victim of harassment, alleging she was bullied by both Mrs Mellor-Shaw and Miss Moss.

Horsley, of St. Marys Road,

Horsley, of St Marys Road, was found guilty of three counts of harassment withviolence and three of

out violence and three of intimidating a witness. She had denied the charges. Horsley was remanded in custody for reports to be pre-pared. The case was adjour-ned until Monday when she is due to be sentenced.

### **Morrisons'** tree tribute

up at a supermarket in Willenhall to give people the chance to remember loved ones this Christmas.

The Rotary Club of Willenhall will erect the tree at Morrisons on Monday.

People will then be given the chance to cover it in a host of lights and messages in memory of loved ones.

It will also help raise money for local charities.

Each person dedicating a

Each person dedicating a light is invited to write a message which is put onto the tree as well as being recorded in a book of remem brance which will be put on display at Willenhall

# Councillors join fight to get rid of chicanes



Petition - Councillors Paul and Chris Bott with Rajwinde Kullar, of Tubsy's Store

THEY are supposed to slow drivers down – but householders in a residential street claim traffic calming measures are actually having the opposite effect.

aving the opposite effect.

Campaigners in Dangerfield Lane, Dar-aston, say boy racers and other drivers are werving between two chicanes, which

laston, say boy racers and other drivers are swerving between two chicanes, which were installed more than 10 years ago.

Now they have collected a 200-name petition demanding that Walsall Council remove them after accidents, near-misses and problems with parking.

Trader and campaign organiser Bhupinder Singh Kullar, of Tubsy's Store, set up the petition after ongoing traffic problems

"The chicanes have been here for years, but I'm afraid in that time they have not been

I'm afraid in that time they have not been doing their job. They are not a deterrent and need to be ripped out," he said.
"Some passing motorists don't want to stop to give way to oncoming traffic. If there are cars parked on either side of the road and some of the large vehicles can't get through, tempers do flare with drivers becoming abusive. We also have a nursery school near one of the chicanes and there are road safety concerns among families."

are road safety concerns among families."

Darlaston South representatives Coun-

along the road, which links the A4038 Mox-ley Road and the A41 Black Country Route. petition. "The chicanes were put in a petition. "The chicanes were put in a number of years ago to slow the traffic down because of issues back then with rat-

down because of issues back then with rat-running," said Councillor Paul Bott.

"They were put in to reduce traffic speed to 20mph down Dangerfield Lane. But it has created the effect that everyone is racing through them because they don't want to give way to oncoming traffic."

He said the chicanes should be removed to allow the free flow of traffic. Recently a sports car struck one of the chicanes result-ing in a wheel coming to rest in a nearby

ing in a wheel coming to rest in a nearby

#### Pub to reopen as Indian restaurant

A POPULAR pub has reopened as an Indian restaurant after lying

restaurant after lying empty for three years. The Dale House pub in Biston Street, Willenhall, has been renamed Dale House Indian Fine Dining and has created 15 new jobs. It was officially opened by the Mayor of Walsall Council, Councillor Mohammad Nazir. The 18th century townhouse has a bar and restaurant on the ground floor and an upstairs function room. It closed in 2011 after a downturn in business

er a downturn in business but new manager Moham-med Hussain said he is hopeful about its future.

#### Closure due with signal box work

WORK on the demolition of Bloxwich signal box which dates back more

which dates back more than 50 years will take place next month.

Willenhall Lane will be closed at the level crossing of the rail line during the

It will take place over December 7 and 8, with-Croxstalls Road also due to shut while it is carried

An upgrade of the sig-nalling system along the Chase Line means there is no longer a need for the signal box.

#### **Retirement home** scheme is sent in

A FORMER pub in Walsall could be transformed into retirement homes under new plans submitted to the council.

new pians submitted to the council.

The Park Tavern, in Broadway North, would be transformed into 28 properties if the proposals are given the go-ahead.

Developers McCarthy and Stone say in a statement: "The proposed site is within easy walking distance of local shops and facilities and this will contribute significantly to retail viability."

#### **Health Lottery** bid by Poundland

POUNDLAND has begun selling Health Lottery tickets in almost 300 stores across the UK. The Willenhall-based

The Willenhall-based chain has revealed that sales will be rolled out to all of its 400 plus branches by March next year.
Poundland trading director Richard Lancaster said: "We're delighted to be supporting the Health Lottery and helping to fundraise for charities."

# Ex-mayor riding high with argument against new car

Walsall Council for their £50,000 expenditure on a new Jaquar XJ at a time when he says the authority needs to tighten its belt.

Richard Worrall's stance when he wore the chain of office in the 1990s, was to jump on a bike, or hop on the bus – anything but use the expensive mayoral car.

the bus—anything but use The 69-year-old has joined the fierce debate about the borough mayor's car after it emerged Walsall Council controversially spent the cash at a time they are making £19 million savings and 332 job cuts. He said the decision to fork out thousands for a Jaguar 'wasn't a very clever

Jaguar 'wasn't a very clever

When I was mayor back in the 1990s, I tried not to use the mayoral car as much as possible," he said. "I would go places by bus, bike or even walk if I could. I never turned up to a council meeting in a car.

"I just felt then – and I still do now – that we need to do something about the way we travel around." in the 1990s. I tried not to

#### Costly

Mr Worrall described his

Mr Worrall described his decision to use greener forms of transport as having more to do with saving the environment but it would have certainly saved some pennies too.

"I did it my way to save the environment," he continued. "A Ford Mondeo was hired as the mayoral car after the previous one, a Daimler, was sent to a motor museum in France. That had been very costly.

had been very costly.

"For a mayor, a Mondeo would be seen as rather downmarket, but the mayor does not have to arrive in an expensive limousine. People are happy to meet the mayor, a nice friendly face. That's all they care about. When I read about the council



Richard Worrall on his bike in the 90s





National Pensioners' Con-vention for free bus travel for senior citizens.

He added: "I remember one time when I left my bike outside the council house and when I came out later someone had stolen the saddle."

Mr Worrell is quick to lean



Walsall Council's new Jaguar - bought at a time of massive spending cuts and job losses

# Scrap comes in useful to help hospice UNWANTED scrap metal has raised UNWANTED scrap metal has

nance workers got into gear for charity.

Employees of Lafarge Tarmac, Employees of Latarge Tarmac, which carries out highways work on behalf of Walsall Council, raised the cash by collecting waste metal that they came across during the course of their duties.

They donated the money to St Giles

Walsall Hospice, a 12-bed centre, based in Goscote Lane, Goscote, which provides medical and nursing care for residents suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, as well as offering support to their families and

carers.
In addition to the money raised,
Lafarge Tarmac's Walsall-based team
is also supporting St Giles Hospice's
Share a Christmas Card initiative.

This programme encourages businesses to have a communal card on which employees can write festive messages and then make a financial donation to the hospice instead of sending

manydual cards.

Mark Harriman, of Lafarge Tarmac, said: "The highways team has worked hard to collect the materials and it's great to give this cash to an important cause."



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saddle."
Mr Worrall is quick to leap
to the defence of current
mayor Councillor Mohammad Nazir, saying the decision to buy a new Jaguar was
not down to him

not down to him.

Union chiefs have been highly critical over the expenditure on the new mayoral car. But council

leader Mike Bird has said coughing up £50,000 will have no impact on potential redundancies.



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# **OF PETER**

IN THE space of a few hours this week I received two emails, apparently from BT, about changes to the emails system. Both turned out to be bogus, part of a "phishing" scam to pick up personal details. The internet seems to get

system. Both turned out to be bogus, part of a "phishing" scamt o pick up personal details. The internet seems to get more dangerous every day, like a dark, growing forest with robbers behind every tree. I sometimes wonder how long the internet will last. Unless security is massively improved, the day may come when, like airships and Sinclair CSs, it will be seen as too dangerous for most folk to contemplate.

BIG row in Walsall over the council's decision to blow £50,000 on a new Jaguar as the mayoral limousine. A senior councillor says: "We feel it's important to retain the significance of the mayor's role. The mayor goes back to the 1200s. The mayor is the Queen's representative in the borough." Which sounds terribly impressive until you recall that the role of the Pope goes back 2,000 years and he is God's representative on earth. While the Mayor of Walsall rolls up in a £50,000 Jag, Pope Francis uses a Ford Focus. supermarket. If you go shoplifting a dozen times before you get caught and then get stung for £80, you're well into profit. Is it any wonder that thousands of people no longer regard shoplifting as a crime and look slightly puzzled if you suggest, heaven forbid, they should be ashamed of them-selves?

selves?

FOR a snapshot of modern attitudes to theft from stores, have a look at that great national barometer, the Sky News website where one contributor thunders: "The only answer to this problem is to FIGHT for a DECENT WAGE." Actually, there is another answer. Try leading a decent, honest life and keeping your sticky fingers off other people's property.

MEANWHILE, it emerged this week that we are heading for the most debt-ridden Christmas of all time. Total UK personal debt stands at £1.43 trillion or if you prefer.

personal debt stands at £1.43 trillion or if you prefer, £1,430,000,000,000.000. Average debt per British household is now £54,000, double the level of a decade ago. And just when you're thinking of doing something really desperate (like paying off some of your debts), along comes a couple of new credit cards, announced this week, which don't charge any interest for the first 15 months. Just think of the debt you can rack up before things turn nasty. Just what we debt you can rack up before things turn nasty. Just what we need – the lead lifejacket.

IT is 50 years since President Kennedy was killed in Dallas. Over the following five decades, like so many of my generation, I have read endless conspiracy theories and watched a succession of reconstructions, documentaries and movies. Only one came close to persuading me there and movies. Only one came close to persuading me there was more to this killing than a single assassin in the Dallas book depository. This was Bonar Menninger's book Mortal Error: The Shot That Killed JFK, which I reviewed when it was published 21 years ago. Menninger believes Lee Harvey Oswald fired only two of the three shots heard that day in Dallas. The third and fatal shot, he suggests, was fired accidentally by secret service agent George Hickey in the car behind Kennedy's who stood up in alarm when he heard Oswald's shots. It is an elegant theory. It explains not only why the three shots happened so quickly but why several witnesses said they smelt gunpowder in the air at street level. Above all, it is a theory which relies not on a conspiracy, which would surely have unravelled by now, but on a good, old-fashioned cock-up.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes** every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

# Pupils ring out their Jingle Bells in Free Radio contest



Pupils with Free Radio workers

A CHOIR from a school in Walsall are hoping their rendition of Jingle Bells will help them become Free Radio's

will help them become Free Radio's 2013 Christmas Stars. Whitehall Nursery and Infant School is one of 10 educational estab-lishments battling it out to win the chance to sing their favourite festive

song on the radio.

The winning school will not only have its song played on air to an audi-ence of more than 350,000, but will also be given the opportunity to

perform live in front of hundreds of people. Jo and Sparky from Free Radio's Drive programme visited the Walsall school with Michaela Powell, the managing director of Aspire People, the Midlands-based recruit-ment consultancy which is sponsor-ing the competition, to see the choir in action as punils sang their chosen in action as pupils sang their chosen Christmas audition live for Free Radio.

The choir's song was put to the public for voting last week. Ms Powell

said: "I was overwhelmed by the huge said: "I was overwhelmed by the huge amount of effort that the school choir has gone to. The song had everybody in the room up on their feet, dancing and clapping along. I could tell the pupils were really enthused and excited to be involved in the Christ-mas Stars competition." The choir, which is made up of 38 pupils aged between five and seven, has been reactiving its congrebace in

has been practising its song choice in after-school rehearsals, with music coordinator John Palmer

# Thug gets jail after targeting pizza man

A THUG is paying a very high price for a £14 pizza takeaway after it cost him a two year and 10 month custodial sentence.

James Mills realised he did not have enough money after it had been ordered, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. So the 20-year-old hid in bushes and ambushed the delivery

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. So the 20-year-old hid in bushes and ambushed the delivery driver at 1.30 am, prosecutor Mr Philip Beardwell said. Mills leapt from his hiding place and pointed a 10-inch blade at Mr Khaled Alizadah who was forced to hand over the meal, the court heard. The robber took the pizza bag and demanded: "What else have you got?", forcing the terrified delivery driver to hand over £40 cash of his own money. Mills then fled, but outram Mr Alizadah, who returned to the Wishbone Takeaway to raise the alarm. In the meantime the robber returned to the address from which the order had been made in Harvey Road, Beechdale – the home of a woman he knew – to eat the pizza, before hailing a taxi back to his home. The fare was paid with some of the stolen money, the court was told. stolen money, the court was

told.

The defendant was plagued by drink and drug problems and had four previous convictions involving nine separate offences dating back to 2009, the court heard Mills from Woodlands Court, Bridge Road, Shelfield, admitted robbery and possession of a knife in the early hours of October 24 and was sent to a Young Offenders Institution for 32 months.

# Woman faces sentence over partner killing plot

SHE has been labelled a 'cold and callous individual' and now Kelly Cliff faces being sentenced for plotting to have her partner

killed, after a jury found her guilty.
Detective Constable James Connell of Force CID said it was a 'very rare case' and its seriousness cannot be underestimated.

cannot be underestimated.

Cliff had admitted saying she wanted Carl Gallagher—with whom she shared a house in Aldridge—to 'drop dead' during a conversation with Dalton Bowen, but she insisted she had never actually intended it to be taken seriously.

But Mr Bowen was so shocked by the discussion that he went to the police.

DC Connell, who is based at Bloxwich police station and led a team of six officers and never thought he would

and led a team of six officers in the investigation, said he was pleased with the verdict

after months of hard work.

He said: "She is a cold and callous individual who has callous individual who has now been convicted of a very serious offence. I am looking forward to finding out what sentence she will receive.

"This was a very rare case for us, and I have certainly never come across one like this before.

#### **Alarmed**

"She was trying to organ-ise her partner's murder. It was a long investigation, in total we spent eight months working on it, and it took a great deal of hard work to get to this stage, so we are delighted."

Mr Bowen told Wolver-hampton Crown Court: "She said she wanted her partner killed, wiped off the face of the earth."

said safe wanted ner partners killed, wiped off the face of the earth." He said: "I was meant to find out who would do it, when and how much." He said that he was so alarmed by the suggestion that he reported it to the police and Cliff was arrested at the couple's house in Brookfield Road, Aldridge, on May 5. Cliff, aged 40, denied soliciting Mr Bowen to kill Mr Gallagher between April 2 and April 6. She told a jury that she had talked to Mr Bowen about wishing Mr

Gallagher dead but said she was only 'letting off stem' and never thought he would do anything about it.

She said she failed to mention the discussion to detectives following her arrest because she was frightened after being locked up in the cells overnight before being interviewed.

Meanwhile, Mr Gallagher has since moved out of the area.

area.

Mr Gallagher, who had stayed with Cliff throughout their 22-year relationship during which she had a string of affairs, has moved to Wales. The current occurant of the beausing Pacel. pant of the house in Brook-field Road confirmed that Gallagher had left

several months ago.

Mother-of-two Cliff, aged
40, was remanded in custody

Mother-oi-two Chift, aged
40, was remanded in custody
after the verdict, after a
four-day trial.

The jury had been told
how Mr Gallagher put up
with the repeated affairs by
the woman who wanted him
dead.

He said in a sworn statement read to the court: "The
relationship always had its
ups and downs and throughout that time I have been
aware that she had relationships with other men behind
my back."

The couple had married
during their long relationship, but divorced seven
years ago, before reuniting.

Cliff is due to be sentenced
on December 6.



Kerry Cliff, aged 40, who has been found guilty of plotting to kill her partner

# Town post office move is welcomed

A BID to move a post office a short distance from its current base to a new home as part of a modernisation programme has been welcomed.

Moxley Post Office is earmarked to move around 2,116 ft from where it is currently located in Roberts Close to Kendrick News, in Kendrick Road. Post Office Ltd has launched a six-week consultation over the plans which would see the branch's opening hours extended to 103 per week – more

### **Kicking off** team's dates

WILLENHALL Town FC players are revealing a bit more than usual on the latest calendar in a bit to raise funds for the club. The first delivery of The Lockmen Revealed 2014 calendars has taken place and will be on sale at all games and fundraising events, or via post. If anyone would via post. If anyone would like to reserve one, please call chairman Simon Hall on wtfcclubsec@aol.co. uk.

wticclubsec@aol.co. uk. A spokesman for the club said: "Let's make this a project to remember – £6 buys you a quality calendar with 12 brave lads debuting in their modelling careers for a bit of fun. An ideal gift and something a little gar. and something a little easy on the eye for those liking their footballing eye candy!"



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#### NEWS

# Fight is on to protect elderly's free trips

A CAMPAIGN is being launched against 'terrible' plans to strip pensioners of free train and tram travel and cut funding for Ring and Ride services. The proposal is part of a £14 million package of cuts revealed by Centro.

Under its cost-cutting

Under its cost-cutting plans, fares for children on buses would rise from half an adult fee to two thirds while funding for the Ring and Ride service would be

reduced.

Free bus travel for pensioners and the disabled will be protected because it is required by law, however the free tram and train service is not. Walsall councillor and former mayor Richard Worrall revealed he would campaign for Centro to have a rethink.

He said: "If there is a 25 to

He said: "If there is a 25 to 30 per cent cut to funding for Ring and Ride then there's not going to be a lot left. I am very angry at the cuts being imposed by the Government. It is absolutely terrible."

ble."

Councillor Worrall will be starting a petition and organising events to promote his campaign. He added he believed few savings would actually be made by axing free tram and train travel for pensioners.

He said: "This is just appalling and I am very angry at what is being done. I don't blame the leaders of the authorities but we need

the authorities but we need to make sure that the choices they make are the least damaging to the most vulnerable people."

### **Zeppelin raid** to be feature

DEVASTATION from the infamous Zeppelin raid over Walsall will be among the talks being staged to mark talks being staged to mark the centenary of the First World War.

Archivist Paul Ford will Archivist Paul Ford will lead his popular presentation about the night the German aircraft dropped bombs over Bradford Place in the town centre killing the mayoress Mary Slater and tearing the roof off the old Wednesbury Road Congregational Church on January 31, 1916.

The miblic event will be

January 31, 1916.

The public event will be held at Walsall Local History Centre, in Leamore on December 2, from 7pm. Admission is £2 and to book call 01922 721305. Log onto www.walsall.gov.uk/localhistorycentre

# Phone mast replacement plan is thrown out

A TELECOMS giant's bid to replace a con-troversial phone mast that sparked a High Court battle with an even larger model has been thrown out. Walsall Council had launched legal action

Walsail Council had launched legal action after claiming Vodafone had put up the mast in Pheasey in July 2011 despite the authority throwing out the proposals – but a judge ruled there should be no judicial review. Vodafone then drew up new plans to increase the height of the 48ft phone mast, at the junction of Waverley Avenue and December 2004 by 20m to issue receiving

Beacon Road, by 20cm to improve services

for customers.

But Walsall Council's planning commit-

tee voted unanimously to throw out the pro-posals at a meeting last night, with council leader Mike Bird directing officers to write to Vodafone to ask again if the firm will pull the current mast down.

the current mast down.

It came after planning officers warned the committee that despite the minor size increase, the new mast would be 'considerably more bulky and prominent' and new equipment cabinets would be 'intrusive'.

Speaking against the plans, Walsall's regeneration chief Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "Our residents are extremely approved in how this mast ended up here.

annoyed in how this mast ended up here.
"The new mast will be bigger. The appli-

local residents."

Pheasey Park Farm Councillor Chris Towe, also speaking against the plans, added: "We did offer them alternative sites

added: "We did offer them alternative sites at the time and they refused."

Protesters cited health concerns, claiming it is unnecessary and that there are many more preferable sites nearby. Planning agent Chris Taylor, from Mono Consultants, speaking on behalf of the applicant, said the new mast would have feelitted 4G carried.

But Councillor Bird told the meeting: "It is a new application. It is a different mast.

first one and we don't want the second one." The council had previously sought to take

The council had previously sought to take enforcement action against the mast, with more than 350 people signing a petition in support of the authority.

The council said the decision to refuse planning permission for the mast was posted on its website and sent to bosses at Vodafone 11 days before the 56-day deadline for a planning decision.

for a planning decision.

This was denied by the phone operator, which said it had not received the notice of refusal and went ahead under 'permitted development'.

### Apply for funds call to business

SMALL to medium-sized businesses in the Black Country are being urged to apply for funding to help them expand or create new business prem-ices

in brief

reate new business premises.
Funding is being made available through The Black Country Business Property Investment Programme, supported by the European Regional Development Fund and managed by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The deadline for expressions of interest is December 2.
Contributions from Walsail, Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton Councils have been added to the pot of funding, suported by potential investment from private sector businesses that will be taking part.

taking part.
Visit bcbpip.co.uk or
call 01922 654356 for
further details.

# Ready, steady, ho! ho! ho! ho! plea

ho! ho! plea
A HOSPICE in the Black
Country is calling on families and friends to suit-up as Father Christmas for its
annual fundraising Santa
Run. Acorns Children's
Hospice is holding the
event at Walsall Arboretum on December 8.
There will be a 5km run
and 2km stroll to choose
from and all runners will
receive a two-for-one voucher for Drayton Manor.
Laura Heathfield, events manager at Acorns,
said: "Last year's event
was a magical scene and
we're hoping to encourage
lots more Santas to come
along and make this year
the best yet. Acorns provides vital support to 200
children and 300 families
across the Black Country."
Entry is £10 for adults, £5
for under 6s. Call 0844 984
0405 to register.

Students' iov at

#### Students' joy at national award

STAFF and students at Walsall College are cele-brating after winning a national award for out-standing leadership of improvement.

The college was awarded a prestigious Association of Colleges Beacon Award during the AoC annual conference in Birmingham.

It won the award for the It won the award for the holistic approach that it has taken to shift from being a satisfactory college to being judged outstanding overall by Ofsted earlier this year.

# Council calls for help to stop disappearing pubs

asked to confer special powers on Walsall to help the town protect its ailing pub industry.

It comes after a number of pubs have been closed and

transformed into flats in the

Walsall Council is now asking the

Walsall Council is now asking the Government to give it greater authority to reject applications from developers for pubs across the borough.

The plea to Secretary of State for communities and local government Eric Pickles will call on him to return full planning powers to allow the council to prevent pubs from being converted for other uses. Under the plan, no pub will be

being converted for other uses. Under the plan, no pub will be allowed to change use unless it can show that continued trading is not economically viable, the premises has been marketed as a pub for a minimum amount of time and the change will not lead to a shortage of pubs within easy walking distance.

#### Backed

The call for action was backed at the full council meeting which took place last week. Councillor Ian Shires, who pro-posed the plan, said: "Pubs provide a

posed the plan, said: "Pubs provide a community hub for residents to meet, relax, debate and do business. When a pub dies, part of the community dies. Bit by bit we are letting our communities die around us." Council leader Mike Bird said: "More people these days are choosing to go to the off-licence where the can buy alcohol more cheaply and drink it at home where they don't have to worry about drinking and driving, and they can have a smoke." A number of prominent pubs in Walsall have been turned into homes in recent years.

homes in recent years.
The latest is set to be The Station

The latest is set to be The Station Hotel in Bloxwich.
According to The Campaign for Real Ale, 26 pubs are closing a week—a total of 1,300 a year—across the country.

# Gerrard moment is Declan's best birthday present



A proud moment for Declan and his family as he leads out the teams and the rest of the escorts, hand-in-hand with Steven Gerrard

FOR A football-mad youngster, team out with captain Steven be a team escort. And to prepare there really is no better birthday present.

Just one day before his eighth just one day before his eighth irrly was lining up in the the tunnel smallest to tallest, so around two weeks learning the Wembley tunnel waiting to walk for once being short paid off for out with England ahead of their huge match with Germany last present."

team out with captain Steven be a team escort. And to prepare for his big occasion the Villa fan, hate to say it but I did actually who goes to Yew Tree Primary of us considered in the propare for his big occasion the Villa fan, bate to say it but I did actually who goes to Yew Tree Primary or. None of us could really school and plays for Centre Spot believe it. They had to line up in Colts in Rowley Regis, spent for once being short paid off for words to the national anthem.

He said: "I had to say the for his big occasion the Villa fan, bate to say it but I did actually who goes to Yew Tree Primary or. None of us could really school and plays for Centre Spot believe it. They had to line up in Colts in Rowley Regis, spent words to the national anthem.

He said: "I had to say it but I did actually who goes to Yew Tree Primary or. None of us could really school and plays for Centre Spot believe it. They had to line up in Colts in Rowley Regis, spent words to the national anthem.

He said: "I had to say it but I did actually who goes to Yew Tree Primary or. None of us could really school and plays for Centre Spot believe it. They had to line up in Colts in Rowley Regis, spent words or the very sent of us of us

He said: I had to sing the huge match with Germany last present."

Tuesday.

But little did he or his proud family up in the stands know, after both Mr Kennelly and his that he would be leading the huge match with England team singing. The said: I had to sing the said:



From left, sister Caitlin, Dad Mike Kennelly, Declan and sister Niamh

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#### **NEWS FEATURE**



SOME years ago, my car was vandalised. It had been keyed from front to back, with several from front to back, with several deep scratches across four different panels. Pretty conclusive evidence of a crime, wouldn't you say? Not according to the police officer who attended. "So what makes you think it was deliberate?" he asked. Of course. Somebody walking past, maybe on their way to a

past, maybe on their way to a charity auction or something

charity auction or something, just happens to have a sharp implement in their hand, and accidentally gouges a 16ft stretch of paintwork. Happens all the time.

Last week former West Midlands Police chief inspector Rodger Patrick told a committee of MPs about how police officers used such quaintly-named techniques as 'cuffing', 'skewing' and 'stitching' to make crime figures look better.

'Cuffing' could potentially involve recording thefts as 'lost property', burglaries as 'theft

involve recording thefts as 'lost property', burglaries as 'theft from property', burglaries as 'theft from property', and attempted burglaries as 'criminal damage', he explained. As opposed to the good old days, when it was a way of dealing with young miscreants. And that made the crime figures look better too.

IT IS great to hear that Black II IS great to near that Black Country discount chain Pound-land is to be floated on the Stock Exchange, but one small ques-tion. What will the share price will be?

CONGRATULATIONS on Kingston-upon-Hull being voted UK City of Culture in 2017.

Now I must confess ignorance, in the sense that it is a place I have never visited. But I'm in no doubt that it is a very pleasant place, and I know enough people who originate from that neck of the woods to leave it would be a constituted from the sense it would be a constituted fr know it would be very unwise to ever suggest anything else. But it does beg the question of how our ruling classes define culture, and what sort of attributes they

seek.

The UK City of Culture panel was headed by television producer Phil Redmond, best known for making Grange Hill and Brookside, and the other main contenders for the title included Leicester, Dundee and

Again, very nice cities, no doubt, but it doesn't take a mastermind to imagine the type of culture they were looking for. I can imagine buzz words like 'cutting edge', 'vibrancy' and 'diversity' being used pretty liberally during the judging

process.
So Worcester, which gave the world Edward Elgar, Stratford-upon Avon, the home of William Shakespeare, and Portsmouth, the birthplace of Charles Dickens, are all overlooked, and instead the accolade goes to the city which brought us John Prescott. Brilliant.









# Scars only skin deep as Karl bares his soul

LISA WRIGHT reports on Black Country hero Karl Hinett who has teamed up with Bryan Adams with some remarkable results

#### The word tattooed across his stomach speaks volumes about war hero Karl Hinett.

Although Karl was so badly injured in Iraq that he had to learn to walk again, the word 'unscarred' is emblazoned on his torso as a reminder of his determination to

overcome his wounds.

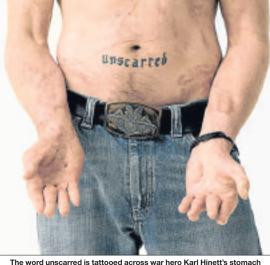
It is a simple, powerful word summing up the spirit of a man who has gone on to run countless marathons in aid of charity, now candidly displayed framed by his shocking scars in a new book by rock star Bryan Adams.

Karl, formerly of Tipton and who now Karl, formerly of Tipton and who now lives in Dudley, was invited by Adams to strip off to be part of an collection of striking portraits of injured soldiers called Bryan Adams Exposed in Dusseldorf. And now the singer has launched a book featuring more images called Wounded: The Legacy of War.

As a private with the Staffordshire Regiment, Karl, 26, suffered severe burns to his hands, legs, arms and face in the bombing in 2005 in Iraq.

#### Challenges

His injuries were so bad he had to painstakingly learn to walk again.
But he battled back to compete in dozens of gruelling challenges to raise money for the hospital that treated him, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. Around two years ago he was approached by the Canadian to pose in the pictures.



of soldiers after war, and it was a really interesting and exciting project to be part of." He spent most of the morning with the star at his studio, and even had breakfast with him.

He said: "He is a really genuine and heart of the start was and really year."

down to earth guy, and really very accommodating, making me feel welcome. It was very relaxed, and he was very clear about what he wanted."

known mostly for his music, but he is a really very good photographer and was very professional."

Karl was photographed individually but was one of 25 injured soldiers to

mammoth fundraising efforts, running 100 marathons in two years in aid of the hospital charity.

On New Year's Day 2011 he started a marathon challenge to raise cash for Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital where he was nursed back to health tal, where he was nursed back to health. He finished the last gruelling 26.2 mile run in Liverpool on New Year's Eve last

year.

Meanwhile, he has also announced he
will be returning to Iraq in an epic challenge to mark the 10th anniversary of
when he was horrifically injured in the

when he was horsened country.

The soldier will be taking on a 5,000km running challenge called 'Back 2 Iraq 2015' in two years time, which will see him run across Europe, Turkey and back

#### Collection

Money will be split between the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham Charity and Walking With The Wounded. Karl said the idea was formed with fellow participant Jules Roberts, 29.

They plan to run around a marathon a day starting in England making their

day, starting in England, making their way through France, Germany, Prague, Serbia, Bulgaria, Turkey and then on to

The book was launched earlier this month and is a collection of photographs and first person accounts from service-men and women who have cheated death whilst serving their country in Iraq and

Afghanistan.

The photography for the book was taken by Bryan Adams and the words were edited by ITN journalist Caroline Froggatt who first approached Bryan with the idea to do something to help wounded soldiers in 2008. The book has taken for some the work was to be a few for the property of the prop

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# THROUGH THE YEARS

#### 1983...

A COUNCIL announced it would be taking a softer stance on prosecutions for breaches of Sunday trading laws. Wolverhampton Council had previously had a policy of rigidly enforcing laws banning businesses from opening on the Sabbath.

THE Express & Star carried an THE Express & Star carried an aerial shot of the new M54 motorway link to Telford, which was due to be opened by Transport Secretary Nicholas Ridley. In an article Mr Ridley wrote: "Although the M54 has in the past understandably attracted some controversy and objections from environmentalists, I believe the advantages and far outweigh the disadvantages."

WOOLWORTH'S chairman John Beckett defended his company's decision to prosecute a 77-year-old shoplifter, despite a 7/-year-old snoplitter, despite being castigated by a judge. Walsall-born Mr Beckett, a former pupil of Wolverhampton Grammar School, said a shoplifter's age should not be taken into account unless they were ill or confused.

#### 1993...

IT WAS announced that the IT WAS announced that the last remaining coal pit in Stafford-shire was to close before Christ-mas, throwing 600 miners out of work. Workers at Littleton Col-liery, near Cannock, were told by bosses at British Coal that the pit would close on December 10.

CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer Ken Clarke cut the rate of bor-rowing by 0.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent, sparking measures that he was trying to stimulate consume spending ahead of a tax rise.

WOLVES fans were furious WULVES fans were furious when they arrived at Luton to discover that the match had been called off. The First Division tie at Kenilworth Road had been cancelled just three hours before kick-off.

#### 2003...

ENGLAND were celebrating ENGLAND were celebrating their most famous sporting victory since 1966 after lifting the Rugby World Cup. Prolific scorer Jonny Wilkinson grabbed the glory with a dramatic last-minute extra time winner.

A CHURCH sparked a fury by removing all silk flower arrangements from graves in its yard. Furious relatives blasted Rev David Vastergaard's decision to enforce the strict rules at Holy Trinity Church in Heath Town, Wolverhampton, without warning. Around100 people signed a petition opposing the controversial move. Mr Vastergaard apologised for any anguish caused by the ban, but said artificial flowers quickly looked shabby and dirty, and could also damage mowing and strimming equipment.



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# Nomination saw camaraderie at co

RE: FREEDOM of the borough for tion on Steptember 23, 2013, when the piece of timber and to have a scroll pre-Noddy Holder. It is a fact that when Noddy Holder was nominated by Councillor Nazir nominated Professor Gatrad for the same longured. A CV explaining who this man and footfall in Walsall. It would, indeed, most councillors had aneedotes associated with him.

It would, indeed cost £17,000 to organise this award, why was this not witness this honour being bestowed. The prepared expressed exprendenced a rare-residence of timber and to have a scroll prepared? But this figure could be recoupled many fold in media interest, publicity was had to be circulated to councillors.

I know many old Walsallians who will an expectate their home town to organise this award, why was this not witness this honour being bestowed.

POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

ETTERS to the Editor

**Authority could take a** 

leaf out of JCB's book

THE divide between the private and public sectors appears to be forever widening.

A recent report mentions the JCB chief executive's

Lord Bamford is a man who remains on top of his game who has steered the company through recession and survived not by putting up prices, but by adopting the latest lean manufacturing techniques to drive cost out of his

Compare this to Walsall Council's well-documented

troubles, including the spending of £50,000 on a new car for the mayor at a time when cuts are needed.

My plan would be:

a) Increase the employee contribution for public sector

a) increase the employee contribution for public sector pensions, to reduce costs to the council.
 b) Reduce the levels of executive management and bureaucracy, combining departments if necessary. Private sector managers have had to become more versatile, covering a wider brief and at the same time receiving zero additional reward. Priority has been company sur-

zero additional reward. Priority has been company survival. Reinvest the savings into improving services and reducing cost (organisational waste).

c) Adopt the assistance of retired private sector managers with Lean Manufacturing experience, to show Walsall Council executives how to reduce cost.

drive to boost manufacturing business

M JONES, Bloxwich

E-MAIL

anecdotes associated with him
The proposed engendered a rare
raised by any Labour councillors in Sepcamaraderie, a pleasant surprise to the
public gallery, instead of the normal
Gatrad was nominated? Why would it
pointless political point scoring. This
was the polar opposite to the nominaunit and brush, to paint a name on a
witness this honour being bestowed
witness this honour being bestowed
conganise this award, why was this not
witness this honour being bestowed
witness this honour being bestow

# **Excellent care** Camouflaged for my mother cyclist concern

IWOULD like to bring to the attention of your readers the excellent standard of care my late mum May Glover received at Swan House Care Home, Willenhall.

Mom had dementia and was with Swan House for three years. On the residential floor, when my 84 year old dad went to visit mom, they invited him to many activities.

She had a stroke in April and returned from hospital to Swan House on the nursing floor, yet again the care was first class.

Each and everyone who works there has time to listen and act on the best interests of residents.

PAKEELEY Willenhall

interests of residents.

P A KEELEY, Willenhall

DRIVING along recently, I was suddenly aware of a cyclist. The weather was quite murky, wearing dark clothing and with a background of some dark trees and bushes, he was well camcultured. ouflaged. Should he have had to

Should he have had to swerve outward to miss any one of the many sunken drainholes on Walsall's roads, there could have been a nasty accident. Those pulsing lights some cycles have fitted are great. The same applies to pedes-trians' clothing, something light and bright would make them more visible.

them more visible.

RAY HAMMOND Alexandra Way Aldridge

### Army is not our first port of call to bring military strength

REGARDING Peter Rhodes' comments in the E&S on our Armed Forces. Great Britain's Army has a fine history and has had some good leaders. But we are a maritime and air power, not a land power – the only time the British Army power, not a land power – the only time the British Army competed as an equal in size to the continental armies was during the Great War. Before and since we have had a relatively small, highly trained and quite well provisioned army intended as the "projectile to be fired by the Royal Navy" as someone once said. This is historically proven fact. We live on a very densely populated island group surrounded by water and subject to all that that implies. S PAGE, Churchill Road, Bentley



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#### **NEWS**

# Award success for principal at college



A COLLEGE principal has scooped a prestigious award for leading a sustainability drive.

Maria Gilling, who has championed the cause at Walsall Adult & Community College since at Was awarded the Sustainability Champion Award at the Green Gown Awards in Derby.

Award at the Green Gown Awards in Derby.

The Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK. Around 325 sustainability leaders attended to see Ms Gilling become the first sustainability champion.

The newly introduced category, open to both staff and students at a tertiary education institution, recognised those who have worked hard at sustainability initiatives.

Ms Gilling was praised for establishing Walsall as the 'mechanism for organisational

waisain as the mechanism for organisational success' across the college.

She said: "Winning this award is a great achievement for all of the staff who have worked so hard to improve the teaching and learning within Walsall Adult and Community College."

# **Stolen goods** gambler fails to win appeal

A FATHER who turned to handling stolen jewellery to fund his gambling addiction has failed to convince top judges he was pun-

Hamilton, also known as David Bassey, from Walsall, was said to have developed a 'devastating' gambling habit over a six-year period, the court heard, having lost over £400.000.

over £400,000.

The 37-year-old, of Park Hall Drive, Park Hall, Walsall, was jailed for two

failed to convince top judges he was punished too harshly.

Father-of-three, Jonathan James Hamilton, was settled down with a family life, and a successful businessman' before he turned to laundering stolen gems in a bid to cover his huge gambling debts, a court heard. After being jailed in March he attempted to appeal his sentence at a hearing at London's Criminal Appeal Court.

The hearing was told by Mr Justice Holroyde that Hamilton was arrested by police in March 2010 while Hamilton pleaded guilty on the basis that he 'laundered figwellery that had been statched in a house burglary just hours before.

Three months later, a police raid on his home uncovered smelting gear and other paraphernalia designed to melt down gold. Hamilton, also known as pudded to dispose of property with no questions designed to melt down gold. Hamilton, also known as pudded to dispose of property with no questions designed to melt down gold. Hamilton, also known as pressed 'shame and remorse' David Bassew, from Walsall, for his crimes, the court fatter than a successful business and a half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he and a half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he and a half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he and a half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he and a half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he half years at Birming ham Crown Court after he hamilted converting criminal property. He had also the hamilton pleaded of the proceeds of crime.

asked'. Hamilton has expressed 'shame and remorse' for his crimes, the court heard, and he had also made efforts to address his gambling. However Mr Justice Holroyde, sitting with Lord Justice Elias and Mr Justice King said Hamilton had 'dealt in high value property were alware property were alware property was a law proported of time'. 'dealt in high value property over a long period of time'.

# Pupils click into action



Andrew Pomroy-Hillier and Lottie Rose-Preston with thei year 6 classmates at Pool Hayes Primary school, Willenhal

DRAMA was used to help children stay safe online as part

DRAMA was used to help children stay safe online as part of a new school project.

Pupils at Pool Hayes Primary in Willenhall took part on a performance called Three Clicks which warned of the dangers of the internet. It was organised by the One Day Creative company, which visits schools across the country. Headteacher Keith Page said the event was a success and had helped educate the Year 5 and 6 children.

The pupils were led through rehearsals during the daylong workshop before taking part in the performance at the end. As well as improving their awareness of the internet, the activities are also designed to develop their teamwork and help them express their own ideas.

Mr Page added: "The day culminated in a lively performance to the whole school, in which the repeated phrase

ance to the whole school, in which the repeated phrase 'three clicks' – standing for click clever, click cool, click safe - was used to reinforce how to avoid and dangers of the internet and stay safe."

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#### **NEWS**

# Teatime celebration for Busy Bees' 30th

TODDLERS were buzzing with excitement when they helped celebrate their nursery's 30th anniversary. The Busy Bees group, which was founded in 1983, marked the occasion with parties at its nurseries across the country, including one in Walsall.
Youngsters and staff at the nursery dressed up as bees

nursery dressed up as bees and took part in activities throughout the day, including arts and crafts.

And they took a break from the celebrations to settle down for a delicious afternoon

tea.

Assistant manager Melanie
Burke said: "It was a really
nice day and all the children
had a good time.

"They enjoyed the activities and had a lovely afternear tea."



# **Mother used £9k false** claims cash to pay debts

overpaid to the tune of more than £9,000 from the public purse, after failing to declare she was no longer a single parent, used the money to repay catalogue debts and buy items for her house a

Court was told.

Leanne Edmunds, a 27-year-old mother of three, was sentenced at Walsall Magistrates Court after she admitted three charges of failing to notify of a change in her circumMoxley, was rumbled after an anonymous tip-off to Walsall Council who held a joint investigation with the Department of Work and Pensions – DWP.

The court was told that she had been paid housing and council tax benefits and income support, in addition to child benefit and child tax credits since 2008 and was in receipt of £174 a week

2008 and was in receipt of £1/4 a week as a lone parent.

Miss Kerry Munro, prosecuting on behalf of Walsall council, told magistrates that staff from the DWP had received information that Edmunds lived with her partner Shaun Price and

to be rehoused and claimed to live with her mother and that she was being

ner mother and that she was some evicted.

"She used the benefit payments to repay catalogue debts and to buy things for the house.

Mr William Harrison, defending, told the magistrates his client would follow recomme ndations in the presentence report.

entence report. The magistrates gave Edmunds a 12-onth Community Order with a requirement to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work plus £450 and a victim's surcharge of £60.



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#### **NEWS**

# Sew much fun creating new items in project

BAGS and brooches have been crafted from left over fabric in sewing classes being run at a community project. Cuts of cloth collected at the Mend

Cuts of cloth collected at the Mend th project are given a new lease of life. Fabric artist Yvonne Flavell has been leading the free workshops at Green Lane Baptist Church.

"The group is really eager to learn and we are exploring various ideas in the hope of hitting on a product that they really enjoy creating," she said. Thirteen people flocked to the first event.

sevent. Sessions are held on Mondays at the church hall in Burrowes Street, Birchills, from 12.45pm to 2.45pm until December 16. The scheme has been funded with the help of a £2,500 grant from Walsall's community

grant from Walsall's community development fund. Hibbar Bibi, aged 60, of Farringdon Street, said: "I'm really enjoying making the little bags. I do sew clothes, but it's nice to learn some-thing new." The church will host its annual Christmas fair on Saturday.



Fabric artist Yvonne Flavell with Hkbar Bibi at the Mend It sewing project

# £100 compensation for tim of sexual assa

ted a teenager as she waited at Walsall Bus Station sparking a police hunt after the incident was captured on CCTV - has been ordered to pay her compensation.

The 14-year-old was sitting at the premises in St Paul's Street when she was approached by Christopher O'Brien, aged 25, who had been drinking with friends, Walsall Magistrates Court was tald.

Court was told.
Miss Maggie Meakin, prosecuting,

said the girl described how she became aware of a group of men near her on June 27. She says the next thing she knew

"She says the next thing she knew was that one of the men groped her.
"She alerted the security staff and O'Brien was then spotted getting on the number 997 bus to Birmingham."
Miss Meakin said the defendant came forward after his image was circulated in the media. She went on to tell the court: "He said he had been drinking with friends. When he was shown the CCTV he agreed that it was shown the aid he couldn't remember grabbing her breasts."

O'Brien admitted sexual assault at an earlier hearing in October. Mr Philip Haycock, defending O'Brien said he was sorry about what happened and said he had owned up. He told the court: "He is deeply ashamed of himself. He apologises for his actions." Magistrates sentenced O'Brien, of Kingfisher Drive, Solihull, to a 36-month community order. He must also attend Solihull Integrated Addiction Services. He must pay the victim £100 compensation, was also ordered to pay £85 costs and £60 victim's surcharge and will be on the Sex Offenders' Register for five years.





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# **Boiler con alert on cold calls**

and was asked for personal information such as bank details and his address.

Trading standards officers have today warned residents to beware of any cold calls

RESIDENTS are being warned about a potential boiler company scam in Walsall.

A resident in Walsall recently reported that he received a call from a boiler company saying he was entitled to a free boiler and he was asked to stay on the phone and give personal details.

He was kept on the phone for some time and was asked for personal information as it might be a scam where you could be conned out of money.

"It is better to be sefe then sorry Anyone"

money.

"It is better to be safe than sorry. Anyone who is unsure about the validity of a call or email should seek advice before they give out any information."

# Lockmaker's base rill be auctioned

THE LANDMARK base of a lockmaking firm that closed suddenly with the loss of jobs in September

The former base of Willenhall Locks
Ltd will go under the hammer at an auction on December 5 with Cottons.
It has a guide price of between £319,000 and £359,000.
Willenhall Locks

and £359,000.

Willenhall Locks and Keys Ltd suddenly fell into administration. It had been a feature in the town since opening in the late 1950s. The firm operated from several industrial units in John Harper Street and also Stringes Lane, Willenhall.

Twenty-eight jobs were lost when the historic firm shut.

Administrators Leonard Curtis had been

toric firm shut.

Administrators Leonard Curtis had been appointed to handle the firm's affairs.

Willenhall South Councillor Carl Creaney said: "Only a few months ago this company went into liquidation and now it's being sold. I hope we get a buyer and a business that can provide employment. Willenhall is well known for making locks but lockmaking is coming to an end. It's a shame."

Willenhall South Councillor Sean Coughlan added: "I hope whoever buys it creates jobs. We don't want a developer to buy it and

jobs. We don't want a developer to buy it and turn it into housing. We want jobs for local

Eric Cooper worked at the firm for 27



Willenhall Locks Ltd's premises which is going under the hammer

years. He has since landed new employ ment. He added: "It's sad to see it finally

auction brochure describes the

The auction brochure describes the industrial units as 'modern' and 'olderstyle'. The site also features a yard, workshops, kitchens and a canteen.

In the 16th century Queen Elizabeth granted Willenhall permission to make Royal Locks. Willenhall Locks' rich history dates back to 1952 when Thomas Sambrook founded Keys of Steel.

The company expanded, taking over a part of another lockmaking business, and became Willenhall Locks in 1959.

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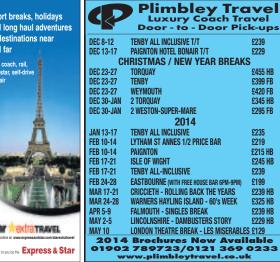


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#### (T&C's below)

ABBA girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, refined, handsome guy with full head of hair, 5ft 9ins plus, professional and courteque. professional and courteous. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409151 🗒

NEETA Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409101 🖞

ROSA, 27yrs, seductive for-eign beauty. Seeks no strings discreet fun, any area. Call to hear my desires. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box

HI I'm Jo, first timer, newly HI Fin Jo, lirst timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409089 ₿

SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408877 🗒

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat out, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943

SUSIE, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 407321

BUBBLY 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

JOANNA 34, in need of tlc, wining, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408869 8

MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408733 🖁

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408489

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311 🖞

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253 🗒

FEMALE many interests, seeks male, 40-55 for LTR, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

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HI I'm Pam, cuddly, attractive, self-sufficient, employed, looking for similar young looking, sincere male for hopeful Itr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407933 🗎

28YR old female, seeking male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

MIXED raced ladv. 34, widely travelled, seeking gent, 30-40 for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408429

68YR old lady, likes gardening, meals out, looking for sincere gent to share time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408413

JENNY single independent attractive lady, tall and leggy, sensual and looking for very special male friend. Only genuine callers pls. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408285 🖁

CHRIS blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights in/out, looking for mature sincere gent for possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407615



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ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106

CAROL 36, looking for older experienced gent 50-70yrs for fun times only, discretion assured and expected. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401853

SUE attractive lonely brunette who loves eves in/out, music, WLTM someone sincere to love and get close to, why not give me a call? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407021

CURVY Irish female 35yrs looking for fun, frolics, weekends away and lots of excitement with reliable male, discretion assured. Tel No:

0906 500 3955 Box No: 407603 ∰ SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box

ANNABELLA board attractive ANNABELLA board attractive 30 something nurse wanting healing hands for no strings fun. No TLC required. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407449 ₿

SUE 40's female who enjoys SUE 40's female who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some fun and hopefully get close to, go on, give me a ring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407019 ₿

NICKY loving caring gorgeous fun young lady who loves swimming, dancing and lots more, seeking male for text chats and fun times. Tel No: 1906 500 3955 Box No: 0906 500 407459 🗎

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407787

PAM 71, feels younger, lots to give, socialising, theatre, give, socialising, theatre, country walks, charity work, seeking male to share interests with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407851

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651

MANDY divorced independent 46yr old single mum, confident, bubbly and social, looking for male companion to share good times and to be there for each other. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407469

NICKY 26 fun single female who has been on her own far too long desperately seeking her Prince Charming, must be tactile and possess the ability to fall in love, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407485 🗒

MICHELLE lonely singleton, fit/slender, passionate, easy-going seeks male to cook for and generally spoil rotten in

exchange for great companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407501

HEATHER larger than life, cuddly built lady, scrubs up pretty well, employed, OHAC, GSOH, looking for good times with willing male, fun times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 500 guaranteed. Tel No: 0300 3955 Box No: 407307

#### SINGLE **MEN**

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(T&C's below).

GARY 40, tall, dark hair, seeks female, 30-50 for fun and LTR. Tel No: 9096 500 3955 Box No: 409207 \$\frac{1}{2}\$

GENEROUS male, 6ft, GSOH, likes music, DIY, seeks attractive lady to spoil and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409019

TONY 55, dark hair, 6ft, confident, outgoing, seeks mature, attractive female, 68 plus, genuine ad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

FUN loving male, 47, lots to give, looking for genuine lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409159

32YR old slim, dark haired, adventurous, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

GENT 55, slightly mad, but not bad, will make you glad you answered his ad! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

TALL intelligent, professional fit guy, 50's, athletic, seeks good natured, intelligent female, 50-57 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408991 🖺

LONELY male, 55, seeks Indian/Jamaican female, 25 plus for sincere relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box

ATTRACTIVE male, 55, seeks older female, 50-70 for close, adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397189

MARK 44, 6ft, dark hair businessman, interesting, seeking sporty female for meals out, day trips, country walks etc. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408571

FUN loving male, 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, seeks mature female, 50-65 for meals out and daytime relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408185

JIMMY 53 good looking, fit and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157

JOHN 59, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, GSOH, seeks lady, 46-55, likes meals out and in. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

TIM easygoing honest male initial easygoing nonest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065

GENT 48, youthful outlook likes countryside, keep fit, karaoke, seeks soul mate for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408411

3955 Box No: 408411

MATURE land owner, GSOH, youthful outlook, likes countryside, socialising, history, seeks lady who appreciates good food/conversation with view to relationship. Tel No: 9906 500 3955 Box No: 408417

BROADMINDED 42yr old male, GSOH, caring, loving good personality seeks female for fun friendship, relationship and adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404623

MATURE male, lonely, no ties, attractive, likes TV, reading, walks, holidays, meals out. seeks attractive, smart female 65-72 to share simple things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408183

MAURICE Shropshire farmer, 43, seeks farming lady of any age to share the good things in life with view to LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 374021

MALE 58, good looking, placid, seeks honest, loyal, caring female with view to becoming soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400313

SINGLE male, youthful, serene, seeks similar down to earth non materialistic female to become everlasting soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Box No: 407711

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks female, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407715

GENUINE good looking male 39, WLTM genuine, pretty 39, WLTM genuine, pretty female, 24-42 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407753

SHY 60yr old male, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407847

#### **GAY** SINGLES

BI male, divorced, own business, generous, fit, 50, seeks male, any nationality, 18-45 for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409009 ₿

GAY guy 58, Shropshire, seeks male 30-80 for friend, companion or long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407819

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311892

# Ales well at Hospital reunion due brewery as business is on increase

production following a £250,000 expansion has invested another £25,000 in equipment after winning new business.

Backyard Brewhouse in Brownhills has increased its brewing capacity from 4,000 to 12,000 pints a week in just over a year. Bosses have now bought two new fermenting

recently won business from major companies such as Punch Taverns and J D Wetherspoon and hopes to branch out into supermarkets in its latest venture.

Director Austen Morgan said: "We have invested a further £25,000 in the brewery on top of the £250,000 for the expansion. We are looking at how we

£250,000 for the expansion. We are looking at how we can approach supermarkets in terms of bottle sales." The expansion work last year saw the brewery in Lichfield Road grow from 1,400 sq ft to 2,500 sq ft and new equipment was installed. "The aim was to be at full capacity in 18 months

over a year. Bosses have now bought two new fermenting vessels to cope with demand and increase capacity to more than 16,000 pints.

And they have hinted there could be more jobs on the horizon, after four new staff were taken on since the brewery's expansion.

The firm, which now supplies around 200 pubs, recently won business from major companies such as "4t the point we closed to do the expansion, we were doing 4,000 pints a week. We are now doing 12,000 pints a week. This does not include bottle sales."

The brewery, based at the Gatehouse Trading Estate, which celebrated its fifth which celebrated its fifth birthday in June, has also installed a new process chiller to fine-tune the way in which its beers ferment.

The firm's bottled range has also continued to grow in somethic its rith.

popularity with several spe-cialist wholesalers now stocking its beers.

Brewery bosses took over The Fountain Inn, in Lower Forster Street, last year and reopened the 150-year-old pub after a revamp costing almost £100,000.

Shirley Ingram from Burntwood, who is planning a reunion for staff who worked at the old St Matthew's Hospital

FORMER hospital workers are looking forward to walking down memory lane at a reunion next month. The gathering will mark 23 years since St Matthew's Hospital in Burnt

will half 20 June 9 wood closed.

The reunion is being held in St Matthew's Sports and Social Club, the original hospital club, on December 6.

SOCIAI CAUD, the original hospital CAUD, on December 6.
Organiser Shirley Ingram, a former staff nurse, said there was a huge camaraderie among the workforce.
"The hospital operated like a little village with partners and other family members also working there. There were staff homes on site and we had our own resident plumbers, carpenters and kitchen staff. We even had our own training school it was a real community."

car penets and uncern stan. We even nad on own training school, it was a real community."

The hospital opened in 1864 as a county asylum. From 1940 to 1947 it took emergency military and civilian patients, including soldiers evacuated from Dunkirk. Mrs Ingram, of Woodford Crescent, Burntwood, said more than 100 people had already confirmed their attendance.

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# Tributes to minister Ron



er Baptist minister and craftsman Ron Mason, who died aged 90, seen with some of the Welsh love spoons he made

aged 90, seen with some of the Welsh love spoons he made FOR more than 50 years, he led congregations at churches in the Black Country, putting 'faith and acts of kindness' at the centre of his minister. Tributes were been paid to former Baptist minister Rev Ron Mason, who died just before his 91st birthday. Mr Mason was pastor at Green Lane Baptist Church in Walsall, leaving in December 2007 after 25 years of service. He was also pastor at Halesowen Baptist Church, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

The minister was known for his skills in making Welsh love spoons, which he often presented as gifts to couples he married. Family members said Mr Mason was loved by 'absolutely everybody who knew him'.

Daughter Roxy Harris, aged 56, of Halesowen, said: "He was a family man, a great dad and great grandad. But he was also devoted to his church family." Mr Mason grew up in London's East End and as a child he was sent to a sanatorium to recover from TB. He also served in the RAF for three years during the Second World War.

# **Next spring is** set as date for **Noddy honour**

SLADE star Noddy Holder could be given the freedom of Walsall next spring – if he accepts the offer, it has been revealed

The musician will become only the 21st person to receive the privilege in 109 years after the council voted unanimously last week to approach the star. Council leader Mike Bird has since revealed the singer

contain leader lattle. Bind has since revealed the singer would be approached, and it would be spring before anything is organised.

Apart from Three Men In A Boat author Jerome K. Jerome, the honour has been bestowed exclusively on politicians or military regiments since 1975.

The invitation is being made on the 40th anniversary of the release of Merry Xmas Everybody, which went to number one and stayed in the charts until February 1974. February 1974. Councillor Bird said: "It's

now only right and proper to write to Noddy Holder and invite him to accept this offer. If he wants to do so we

will work with him to sort out a suitable date for this to happen.

Councillor Pete Smith, who has led the campaign, said the frontman should be celebrated both for his

said the frontman should be celebrated both for his achievements with the band and his charity ties with the town.And he called on the council to start preparing for an event to bestow the honour on Noddy.

He said: "I am grateful for the support of many people across Walsall, the Black Country and beyond who backed the call to offer this honour to Noddy Holder. I now hope that Noddy accepts this offer."

# Fired up for pallets joy A SERIES of bonfires held across Walsall have been hailed

A SERIES of bonfires held across Walsall have been hailed a success by organisers who have thanked businesses for donating pallets to be burnt. Events were held in Bloxwich, Brownhills and Willenhall and attracted huge crowds. Park rangers have also been well supported by borough businesses which have donated and delivered hundreds of wooden pallets to help build the bonfires. Councillor Anthony Harris, portfolio holder for leisure and culture with Walsall Council, said: "I'm delighted to say we've had some really good feedback from visitors of all ages."

# **Head-on crash injuries**

A DRIVER was cut free from a car and taken to hospital after a head-on crash police have revealed. The motorist, a man in his 20s, was suffering from back pain after the smash at the junction of Coalpool Lane and Mill Lane in Walsall which happened at about 6.30pm on Monday. His Volkswagen Polo and been in a collision with a BMW which was travelling in the opposite direction. Firefighters cut the roof off the Polo to free the man. Crew Commander Jason Mage said both vabilels were heldly damaged

Jason Mace said both vehicles were badly damaged.





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#### **NEWS**

# Pupils are counting stars with visit



Year 8 students, from left, Khalid Aswat, aged 12, Firas Hafiz, 12, Muhammad Ehsan, 13, and Hannah Evans, 12, who are in the school Scientific Super Stars group, with Galileo, played by Peter Casey of Blindseer Productions

YOUNG scientists were taken back in time when a historical figure paid them a visit and took over their lessons for the day.

over their lessons for the day.

An actor playing Galileo, known as
the father of modern physics, was at
Aldridge School to help bring science to
life for students.

Galileo was an Italian physicist,

mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher who achieved improvephilosopher who achieved improve-ments to the telescope and consequent astronomical observations on the planets.

Played by actor Peter Casey, he took

#### By Adam Burling

over lessons during the day explaining Galileo's experiments, conducted 400 years ago and their impact on science in the modern world.

in the modern world.

And for year eight scientists including Khalid Aswat, aged 12, Firas Hafiz, 12, Muhammad Ehsan, 13 and Hannah Evans, 12, a special afterschool club was held where they were able to talk to Mr Casey, in his role as the scientist, about his discoveries.

Science technician Amanda Watts, who organised the event, said everyone had enjoyed themselves and

added: "It made a real change having an actor in our science lessons teaching our students about scientific discoveries which have had an impact on our understanding of the world ever

our dimensional since.

The pupils loved his sessions and I hope they learned a lot."

Mr Casey stayed in character as Galileo throughout his time at the

Galileo througnout his time at a school.

The actor, from the Blindseer Productions group, was given information about the physicist beforehand so he was equipped to answer the youngsters's questions.

#### WLCT

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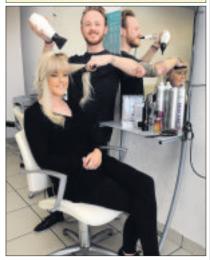
1.30pm & 5.00pm Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th 2.30pm Thursday 26th to Sunday 29th 2.30pm & 7.00pn Monday 30th 2.30pm Tickets £13.50, Concessions £11.50 Family Ticket £42.00





wlct.org/prince-of-wales

# Turning on style to reach national final



Salon director Jamie Richards celebrates reaching the hairdressing finals with Sarah Gething at Richard's Hair

hairdressing finals with Sarah Gething at Richard's Hair A GREAT Wyrley hairdresser is heading for the final of a national competition. Jamie Richards, a former apprentice from City of Wolverhampton College, is one of just three finalists in ghd's Spotlight competition.

As part of the contest, the 25-year-old director at Richard's Hair in Wardles Lane, posted a photograph of his modern twist on the classic ponytail onto the ghd website.

Jamie, who completed his hairdressing NVQ with the college seven years ago, went forward to the finalis after his entry was "liked" by more than 5400 people.

Jamie will compete against the two other finalists in an editorial style photo shoot, for the chance to win a backstage pass to work at London fashion week next February.

The salon still works with City of Wolverhampton College, and currently has two apprentices with them.

Jamie added: "Apprenticeships are great because you get both the knowledge from college and knowledge from the salon. You get a feel for the workplace and how to apply your skills in the real world."

# **Playground** dismantling fears aired

RESIDENTS living near industrial land that will be transformed for a business park project in Walsall spoke of their concerns that a community playground – built at a cost of more than £250,000 – will be dismantled and kept in storage. by Deborah Hardiman

been Equipment has been installed in Primley Park, Pleck, in two phases over the past decade after families campaigned for a patch of bare land to be turned into a

games area.

Walsall Council spent \$20,000 in 2003 and a further £227,580 from the lottery's Transforming Your Space programme in 2006 to create the area in Primley Avenue.

Avenue. Now it will be dismantled I wow it will be distinguished under proposals for the Phoenix 10 scheme to create a business park on the old James Bridge IMI Copper site, near the M6, as part of the Black Country Enterprise Zone.

Residents have raised fears over disruption as a result of the works at the 37-

acre site next to Alumwell

Other issues regarded Other issues regarded concerns over open cast mining at the site. Eileen Edwards, resident and former chairman of the Pleck and Alumwell Residents Association said: "We've been told by a councillor for the area that we're losing our park while the open cast mining operation is under way and that this may be for a period of two to three years."

Walsall Council's regeneration chief Councillor Adr-

waisan Council's regener-ation chief Councillor Adr-ian Andrew said: "We have repeatedly told the council-lors for the area that it will not be open cast mining, as the amount of coal is very small."

# **Boiler con alert**

RESIDENTS are being warned about a potential boiler resident recently a potential object company scam in Walsall. A resident recently reported that he received a call from a boiler company saying he was entitled to a free boiler and he was asked to stay on the phone and give personal details. He was kept on the phone for some time and was asked for personal information such as better the place of the personal information such as

some time and was asked for personal miorination such as bank details and his address.

Trading standards officers have since warned residents to beware of any cold calls they receive. Councillor Zahid Ali, portfolio holder for health and public protection, said: "We would urge people not to give out personal information as it might be a scam. It is better to be safe than sorry. Anyone who is unsure about the validity of a call or email should seek advice before they give out any information

# Do You Value 'Word of Mouth'?

Ou already know that asking friends is the best way to find great restaurants, dentists, hairdressers and anything local.

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Our website is regularly viewed by tens of thousands of local people each month as it contains all people need to find locally. This includes the most recommended businesses in Walsall, testimonials from local people, money savings offers, events, and information about what is going on in Walsall.

Below are just a few of our recommended businesses. To find out more about them and other local gems visit www.thebestof.co.uk/walsall

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#### IEMORY LANE







# **Business has been on the** landscape for past 50 years

Jack Moody, a groundsman's son, tired of his work in the foundries and wood mills.

Aged just 17, he invested in a rake, a fork and a shovel, fastened the tools of his trade to his bicycle and pedalled off around the West Midlands to set up his own landscape construction

Now 50 years on, Jack Moody Holdings PLC has a turnover of around £16million, a staff in excess 250 and has won numerous awards and

excess 250 and has won numerous awards and accreditations. His businesses now include one of the UK's largest independent garden centres, Hollybush Garden Centre, at Shareshill as well as the country's leading purpose-built recycling facility Jack Moody Landscapes Limited. Jack's first foray into the world of landscaping involved mostly domestic gardens, with him working alongside two assistants. One of them, Gordon Griffiths, is still with the company today as contracts director. Jack soon passed his driving

test and bought his first van, a Morris Minor. A few years later he was able to buy his first business premises, in Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury, where he doubled his workforce and bought his first pick-up.

Wednesbury Fencing was formed as part of a practical expansion in 1976, and the company became a Limited Company the following year when it moved to its present site at Hollybush Farm. The site become a garden centre and, as its success grew, it expanded.

#### Contracts

Today its numerous successes include subsidiary nurseries and aquatic centres and major recycling sites at Stafford, Telford, Berkswell near Solihull. The recycling businesses has steadily expanded and now has contracts with numerous local authorities to receive and process their contracts.

their green waste.

It also works with major housebuilders on showhome landscaping – including Barratt, Bovis, Persimmon, Redrow and Cala Homes.

The business has won several contracts and

numerous awards including three separate medals from BBC Gardener's World Live.

Among the more innovative contracts has been the installation of a roof garden at a Lichfield care home, the prestigious landscaping contract at the FA's Staffordshire headquarters at St George's Park, Burton and, for the first time in the UK, the setting up of courtyard landscaping using only edible plants, undertaken for Coventry University.

edible plants, undertaken for Coventry University.

It is still very much a family business, though, as Jack's wife June has worked alongside him for 45 years. Son Robert is managing director and Kate is Hollybush's business development manager.

Many of the staff have worked there for more than 20 years.

A particular success is an aquarium and aquatics department which was directed by Tim Porter, who was with the company for 30 years.

Tim died earlier this year after losing his battle with cancer, and a special tribute is in the process

with cancer, and a special tribute is in the process of being finalised which will involve setting up a Charity Trust Fund in his name



Son Robert is managing director

LATEST

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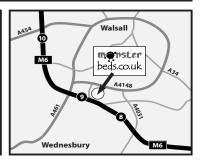
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Thursday 28th November Friday 29th November Saturday 30th November 10AM - 6PM

**Sunday 1st December** 10AM - 4PM



#### **FOCUS ON ALDRIDGE**

# **Empty shop** to become hospice site

A NEW hospice charity shop opens in an empty former high street clothing store today (Thursday).

The former Ethel Austin unit in Bloxwich High Street is being converted into a St Giles Hospice superstore to help raise funds for care at the Walsall-based charity. It the first of the charity's shops to be launched in Bloxwich.

It is the 30th St Giles Hospice charity shop across

It is the 30th of the Hospice charity shop across the region and profits raised will help to fund vital care services for local people living with cancer and other serious illnesses at the facilities in Caesate ity in Goscote. Head of retail Lynwen

Head of retail Lynwen Truesdale said: "This is our first shop in Bloxwich and we really hope the people of the town will become regular shoppers and support St Giles. The new superstore will offer a wide range of goods, including a huge selection of high-quality furniture."

#### **Panto fun with** lots of variety

ROBIN Hood Sister Dora

ROBIN Hood, Sister Dora and a French magician will all feature in Bookmark Bloxwich's panto.
Walsall's community group Cart Before the Horse is bringing the show to life in a story penned by local poet David Calcutt.
Performances will be on December 13 to 15 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 for adults and £4 concessions. Call 01922 655900.

# Village sets out its festive stall with spectacular event

year with a spectacular family event on Satur-Rink in the Square', suitable for all ages.

And there is free admission and free parking to see the festivities, which include carol singers, free chil-

the festivities, which include carol singers, free children's rides and Santa is definitely coming to town.

There will be an opportunity for people to show off their Christmas jumpers for a professional family photoshoot courtesy of Inspire photo studio.

Moreover and the statement of the stat

photo studio.

Maria Cooke, who is the
Chair of Aldridge Village
Business Partnership, from
Jewellery & Gifts Ltd said:
"Aldridge is the perfect
place for all your shopping
needs."

"We are very fortunate to have an array of desirable shops, with new additions shops, with new additions including sports plus, Aldridge Village Interiors and M & J Bridal studio.

#### Special

"We have worked hard as a community to ensure Aldridge offers a Variety of shops, fine dining and a wel-coming atmosphere.

coming atmosphere.
"Being in retail for over 35 years I always look forward to Christmas and hope this year will be extra special, so please come and join us."
Called the Aldridge Adventure, and running from I lam to 4pm,

the event features an enter-tainments stage on Anchor

Road. The ice rink runs a little longer, starting at 10am through to 4.30pm.

10am through to 4.30pm.
Other highlights include
Animal Mania petting zoo in
the High Street, Reach Up
climbing frame, also in the
High Street and a free children's ride in Anchor Road.
There are also local
charity stalls and children's
entertainment throughout

entertainment throughout.

Santa and his helpers will be on hand for children to visit in the square and Aldridge Volunteer Garden-ers will also have a stand for people to visit. people to visit.

Meanwhile, the partner-ship is also running a special Christmas shopping trail until December 15 and on December 7 there is a Light Up A Life Christmas Service taking place at 4pm in Aldridge Shopping Centre. For more information on any of the events for Christ-

mas in the village, contact Walsall Council's District Management team on 01922 654326.



Rewarding – Steve Cooper, left from Uniseal in Burntwood, and Andy McLeod from Morespace after their companies donated materials and time to DIY SOS

# Firms join together to help sufferer

BIG-HEARTED builders have gone to the rescue of a wheelchairbound former electrician whose life was devastated after he suffered a stroke.

fered a stroke.

The father-of-two was forced to give up work after the attack left him paralysed down one side. It also meant his wife had to leave her job to look after him.

Their plight became known to the producers of the popular TV show DIY SOS, presented by Nick Knowles, who have now built the family an extension with the help and generosity of two firms. and generosity of two firms

and generosity of two firms.

Burntwood-based Uniseal and More Space in Lichfield travelled to Warrington, where the family lives, to take part in the show

The two companies donated all the materials and labour free of charge. The programme is due to be aired in eight months time.

Uniseal's Steve Cooper said: "Before this, David's hospital bed was in the kitchen. This is going to make life so much easier for the whole family and give David back his dignity. He was close to tears when he saw it. It was really rewarding to take part in."

# Traffic alert with £30m rebuild of rail bridge

WORK will start next month to rebuild a bridge as part of the £30 million electrifica-tion of the Chase Line – that could cause months of traffic

delays.

The bridge in Station The bridge in Station Road, Hednesford will be closed to all traffic on December 15. It will open the following day but close again for three months from January 4.

Work on the bridge, a project likely to cost around £1.1 million, is expected to finish in April. The scheme began with work to upgrade the bridge in Bloxwich last week.

week. Cannock Chase Council

week.
Cannock Chase Council leader George Adamson, who also sits on Hednesford Town Council, welcomed the move. He said: "We are all in favour of electrification. The idea is to speed up journeys."
The bridge in Station Road is just one of many that will be rebuilt or modified to allow for the electrification of the train line.
Demolition works started last at the Broad Lane bridge in Bloxwich.
Once all bridge works have been completed, electrification work will get under way in 2015 with the overall multi-million pound scheme set for completion in late 2017.
It will see the installation for 15 miles of overhead

late 2017.

It will see the installation of 15 miles of overhead cables. Diesel trains will also be replaced by electric ones. Drivers are being warned that the work could lead to disruptions for drivers.

### **Walsall Garden Centre**

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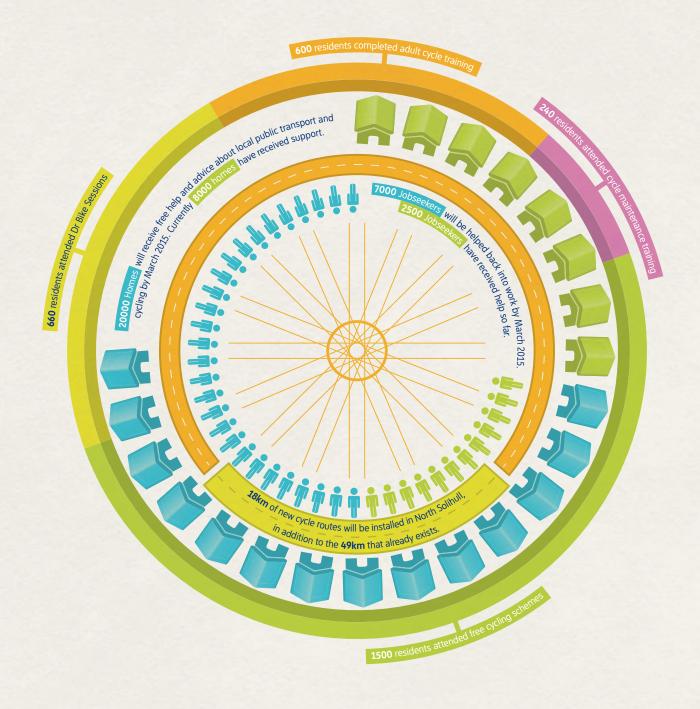
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#### **NEWS**

# Snow stopping fun for pantomime fans



Wyrley Pretenders get ready for their pantomime The Snow Queen, from left Richard Dudley Malpass, Dan Hall, Bea Crimmins and Nicole Malpass

Malpass, Balmala, Bea Chiminis and Nicole Malpass
A NIGHT of family fun is promised by Wyrley Pretenders
when they put on their latest pantomime this week.
The Snow Queen, based on the story by Hans Christian
Anderson, will be full of laughter and popular songs tickets,
director Shaun Malpass said.
Tickets for the show tonight (Thursday), Friday and Saturday at Great Wyrley High School are £5. Curtains are up
at 7.15pm and for ticket information call 07594525836.

# **Builder takes** on council in legal fight over homes

A LEADING developer claims council bosses have seriously underestimated the number of new homes that will be needed in a village near Walsall over the next 15 years.

Builder Ken Lees has legally challenged South Staffordshire District Council in the High Court Council in the High Court over its assessment that 56 new homes will be required in Great Wyrley between now and 2028.

The figure is contained in the council's local plan which all planning authorities are required to submit to the government.

to the government.

It outlines how the council intends to develop its land over a certain period.

#### **Equates**

Figures

Mr Lees said Great Wyrley
has sufficient infrastructure
- such as rail and road links,
shops, schools and other
facilities - for substantially
more housing.

He described the estimate
of 56 as 'ridiculous', saying
the figure did not compare
fairly with other villages in
the district. The 77-year-old
businessman said: "The
natural expansion of the
town requires a quota
the firm than that.
"This equates to just three
units of housing a year.
"What about all the
youngsters? Where are they
going to live? A figure as low
as 56 will force them to move
out of the village."

Under the plan, Codsall

Swaffield Park, has taken
outh Staffordshire Council
to the High Court in Birm
ingham.

Pavid Pattison, the
ouncil's director of legal
area language amuber of sirect too, said: "KGL Estates, as
dwylrey, wanted a much
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"The council's case is that
the staffordshire Council
to the High Court in Birm
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The ouncil's director of legal
facilities - for substantially
more housing.

"The council scale is the
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carefully considered decision, based on a large
on, based on a large
facilities - for substantially
more housing.

The council of a much
large landwore in Great
Wyrley, wanted a much
large landwore in G

#### by Marion Brennan

has been allocated 222
homes, Perton 166, Pattingham 22, Kinver 91, Wombourne 256, Swindon 23,
Coven 32, Wheaton Aston
32, Cheslyn Hay 107, Essington 23 and Featherstone 40.
This earmarked development will take out more
than 100 acres of green belt
land in total, said Mr Lees.
Mr Lees, who was brought
up in Great Wyrley, and his
company, KGL Estates Ltd,
Swaffield Park, has taken
South Staffordshire Council
to the High Court in Birmingham.

# Ring road works due

SEWER works on Walsall ring road will be relaunched in the new year after a hose used by contractors got stuck underground. Severn Trent Water originally completed urgent repairs to a collapsed sewer, in Bescot Road, near junction nine of the M6 three weeks ago.

But during those works a hose being used by a private contractor became lodged in the sewer system causing a blockage in nearby Wallows Lane on the ring road.

Severn Trent Water spokes-man Sarah McArthur said: "While a private contractor was carrying out work, a section of their hose became lodged in the sewer. In order to retrieve the hose, we've already dug down more than two metres, but we now suspect that it is trapped more than six metres underground. There are no roadworks over Christmas."



# **What's On!**

#### Magnificent sevens set for New Alex

set for New Alex
BIRMINGHAM New
Alexandra Theatre hosts a
new version of a classic
American musical early in
the new year.
Seven Brides for Seven
Brothers with former EastEnder actor and Dancing
On Ice champion Sam
Attwater and Helena
Blackman, a How Do You
Solve A Problem Like
Maria finalist, is on from
February 3 to 8. February 3 to 8.

reuruary 3 to 8.

The toe-tapping frontier musical is described as a high energy production by award-winning American director and choreographer Patti Colombo.

#### Wendy ready to fly off with Peter Pan

EXCITEMENT is growing over the Royal Shakespeare Company's new version of much-loved children's fantasy Peter Pan, which will be staged in Stratford from December 10 to March 2.

Entitled Wendy and Peter Pan, Ella Hickson's adaptation of JM Barrie's classic aims to keep all the magic of Neverland whilst providing a few twists and

providing a few twists and surprises. Holby City actor Guy Henry will be swap-ping his surgeon's scalpel for a sword to play the das-tardly Captain Hook

#### Susan's dream tour

JUST as Meryl Streep is rumoured to be playing her in a biopic, singing sensa-tion Susan Boyle has tion Susan Boyle has announced a 2014 UK tour including dates at Birming-ham Symphony Hall on April 2 and Stoke's Regent Theatre on April 10.

# Panto time again, oh yes it is, as there's nothing like a da

# Gok tells who is the fairest of them all

THERE is no doubt who will decide the fairest of them all when TV fashionista Gok Wan appears in Birmingham's pantomime Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

The 39-year-old star of Gok's Fashion Fix, Gok's Style Secrets and How To Look Good Naked will be making his panto debut in the UK's biggest festive show.

But it's not the only major show in Birmingham this Christmas with several panto alternatives on offer.

The refurbished Birmingham Rep is staging Charles Dickens classic A Christmas Carol from now until January 4. Meanwhile, The Oid Rep has Tom's Midnight Garden until January 25.

Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre hosts a musical alternative with Dave Stewart

dra Theatre hosts a musical alternative with Dave Stewart and Glen Ballard's hit musical

and Gien Ballard's nit musical version of Ghost.

The tale of love conquering death is a blend of impressive special effects, music, romance and comedy including the timeless hit song Unchained

Melody.

It is on from December 17 to



Snow White and the Wicked Queen will get style advice from Gok Wan as The Man in the Mirror in Birmingham Hippodrome's pantomime this festive season

CERI Dupree and Gary Wilmott will battle it out in the war of the dames when the region's big two pantomimes open next month.

Čeri plays Queen Passionella in Sleeping Beauty at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, co-starring with funnyman

Wolverhampton Grand Theath
Joe Pasquale as Muddles and
Coronation Street's Lucy
Evans as Princess Beauty.
The Grand panto opens on
Saturday, December 7, and
runs until January 8.
Meanwhile, Birmingham
Hippodrome will host the
UK's biggest panto with its
star-studded version of Snow
White and the Seven Dwarfs.
West End star Gary
Wilmot will be putting on the
frocks to play the dame in a

frocks to play the dame in a production that features TV production that features TV fashion guru Gok Wan as The Man In The Mirror and Dynasty actress Stephanie Beacham as the Wicked Queen. Over The Rainbow winner Danielle Hope, who played Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium, is Snow White.

The panto, featuring further comic support from ventriloquist Paul Zerdin as Muddles and Matt Slack as Oddjob, will run at the Hurst Street venue from Thursday, December 19, to February 2.

To book for Sleeping Beauty call 01902 429212 or to book for Snow White call 0844 338 5000, or see the theatres' websites.

atres' websites



Ceri Dupree, dame in the Grand's Sleeping Beauty



Gary Wilmot in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

#### Hands on as band supportthemselves

Supportueilseres
AWARD-WINNING band
Show of Hands is coming
to Wolverhampton next
month as part of the
Devon group's celebration
of 21 years making music.
Coming towards the end

Coming towards the end of a 30-date tour, SoH will be playing the Wulfrun Hall on December 4 in one of the band's last gigs until autumn next veai

The partnership of multi-talented Steve

multi-talented Steve Knightley and Phil Beer will be teaming up with Miranda Sykes to not only play as a band but to be their own support too.

The show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £18 and available on 0870 320 7000 or online at www.wolvescivic.co.uk and subject to booking fees.

#### Railway Children arrive at town hall

STOURBRIDGE Theatre Company bring their version of classic family

Company bring their version of classic family drama The Railway Children to the stage at Stourbridge Town Hall from tomight (Thursday) until Saturday, including Saturday matinee.

Dave Simpson has adapted E Nesbit's novel. Tickets cost £9 (concessions £8) and £5 for children aged 14 and under Tickets are available from The French Deli, Dudley Council Plus, or via 01384 812812.

#### **Manford dates**

MANCUNIAN comic Jason Manford brings his First World Problems Tour to Dudley Town Hall on Monday and Tuesday

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# What's On!

#### **SATURDAY'S TV** 30.11.13

#### CHOICE



Strictly Come Dancing BBC1, 7pm
So far we've had the romance of a love week and the frights of Halloween – now the seven remaining couples will be paying homage to musicals from stage and screen. If the routines turn out to be more worthy of a Golden Raspberry award than an Oscar, there will at least be a group dance by the professionals to the title song from Cole Porter's classic Anything Goes. No doubt judges Len Goodman, Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood will be on their feet applauding after that. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly present.

#### BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Food & Drink. P. 2.00 Coball Frou 21.215 Saturday Sportsday. 10.80 BIO News. Replonal News. Weather. 1.15 Inspire: The Olympic Journey. Cabby Logan meets cycling star Becky James. 1.45 Live Rugby League World Cup Final. Coverage from Old Trafford (Kick-off 2.30pm). 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 My Family Christmas Special. (R) 6.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

6.15 Pointless Celebrities. With Graeme Garden, Dan Snow, Susie Dent, and Germaine Greer

Greer.
7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. The twinkle-toed contestants celebrate songs from musicals as they take another step closer to lifting the glitterball trophy. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly present.

8.15 Allastie. Moduse is

present.

8.15 Atlantis. Medusa is kidnapped and held to ransom.

ransom.

Casually. Fletch races to save two boys from a dangerous predator, while Sam helps a former wartime spy regain her home and Ash treats a girl who has accidentally eaten her pet cath explore.

9.50 The National Lottery Live. Chris Evans reveals the

10 00 BBC News: Weather 10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Cardiff City v Arsenal; National Lottery Undate.

11.40 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

12.25 Snooker: UK Championship Extra. 2.30 This Is BBC Two. 12.55 Weatherview, 1.00 News.

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. 6.10 Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) 6.35 Dino Jan. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.10 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) 7.25 Sooty. 7.35 Horrid Henry. (R) 7.45 Fext Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) 7.25 Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) 7.50 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 8.15 Butter of Hatting of Hatti

Dorries and Ed Byrne.

8.00 The X-Factor. With places in next week's semi-final at stake, the pressure has never been higher as the acts each perform two songs – one of them chosen by the public.

Dermot O'Leary hosts.

Dermot U'Leary hosts.

9.45 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! The latest eliminated contestant talks to Ant and Dec about their time in the camp, and the Geordie duo present the usual round-up of highlights from the past 24 hours.

10.50 The Jonathan Ross Show.

Celebrity interviews.
11.50 ITV News; Weather.12.05
13.60 Mews; Weather.12.05
13.60 Mew Me Out. (R) 1.10
13.60 Jackpot247. 3.00 The
14.50 Jackpot247. 3.00 The
15.50 Jackpot247. 3.00 Ja

#### **CHANNEL 4**

CHANNEL 4

6.10 FIA GT Series, 7.05 Volleyball.
(R) 8.00 The Monning Line. 9.00

The American Contball Show. 10.05
Frasier (R) 10.30 Everybody Loves
Raymond. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang
Theory. (R) 11.30 The Big Bang
Theory. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons.
(R) 12.30 Heston's Gothic Horror
Feast. (R) 1.30 Channel 4 Racing.
4.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.30

Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.30

Come Dine with Me.
Frenchman Denis Verrier
hosts the final dinner party in
Bath. (R)
6.35 Channel 4 News.
7.05 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD.
Coulson and his team are
haunted by a mysterious
force that threatens to
destroy them all, and only a
secret from May's past can
save them. (R)

8.00 The Lakes: Walking
Through History. Tony
Robinson walks So misside
and on to the Irish Sea at
Ravenglass, exploring how
the Romans conquered the
Lake District.

Lake District.

Charlie Brooker's How
Videogames Changed the
World. The broadcaster
delves into the history of the
games industry and
celebrates some of its most
significant titles, joined by
Jonathan Ross, Dara o Briain
and leading designers. 9.00

and leading designers.

11.05 Indie Game: The Movie.
Following the development of three independent video games.

garnes. 1.10 Stand Up for the Week. (R) 1.55 Fresh Meat. (R) 2.40 Hollyoaks. (R) 4.45 90210. 5.25 Countdown. (R)

#### **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Power 6.00 Milkshakel 11.00 Power Rangers: Megafore. 10.35 Slugtera. 11.00 Inside Hollywood. 11.10 Ben Fogle's Animal Clinic. (R) 12.10 Film: Trading Christmas. (2011) Romantic comedy, starring Faith Ford and Gil Bellows. 1.55 Him: Christmas Mail. (2010) Premiere. Festive romantic comedy, starring Ashley Scott and AJ Buckley. 3.45 Film: The Christmas Gilf. (2009) Festive drama, starring Dean Cain. 5.40 Film: Met the Santas. (2005) Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg.

Film: Meet the Santas. (2005)
Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve
Guttenherg.
7.20 Film: A Carol Christmas.
(2003) A TV talk-show host
gets a shock when triver
spirits each pay her a visit to
be shock when the shock when
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Fantas and th Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarrii. (R) 5.25 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)

#### **DIGITAL**

BBC Three

7 00 Great TV Mistakes 7 10 Doctor 7.00 Great 17 Mistakes 7.10 Doctor Who 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Film: Bruce Almighty (2003) 10.35 Russell Howard's Good News 11.05 Family Guy **BBC Four** 

7.00 Frozen Planet 8.00 Edward VII: Prince of Pleasure 9.00 Borgen 11.00 Queens of British Pop

ITV2
3.30 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Herel 5.00 Film: Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) 6.55 Film: Apollo 13 (1995) 9.45 The Xtra Factor 10.50 I'm a Gelebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! 11.50 Fake Reaction ITV3

4.30 Film: Couring: Lovely but Lethal (1973) 6.00 A Touch of Frost 8.00 Foyle's War 10.00 Bomb Girls 11.00 Film: Interview with the Vampire (1994)

ITV4
12.45 Live Darts. The Players
Championship. 5.00 GT Academy
6.00 I Want That Car. Featuring a
Jaguar XF and a BMW 3-Series.
7.00 Live Darts. The Players
Championship. 11.30 Film: 8 Mile (2002)

E4
3.00 Made in Chelsea 4.05 Rules of Engagement 5.05 How I Met Your Mother 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 How I Met Your Mother 7.30 Suburgatory 8.00 New Girl 9.00 Film: The Twilight Saga: New Moon (2009) 11.35 The Inbetweeners

Film4
2.40 17 Again (2009) 4.35 Planet of the Apes (1968) 6.45 Marley and Me (2008) Comedy drama, starring Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston.
9.00 Babylon AD (2008) Sci-fi adventure, starring Vin Diesel.
10.45 Kick-Ass (2010)

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BBC2

6.00 This is BBC Two. 7.00 Film:
Dean Spanley. (2008) 8.35 Film:
On the Town. (1949) 10.10 Reel
History of Britain. (R) 110.40 The
Life of Birds. (R) 11.30 Refugees of
the Lost Rainforest. 12.00 The
Great British Bake Off Christmas
Masterclass. (R) 1.00 Live
Snooker: UK Championship.
Coverage of the first round at the
Barbican Centre in York. 4.30 Live
International Rugby Union. Wales v
Australia (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.00 Jonathan Davies –
Trimsaran Boy. Profile of former rugby player
Jonathan Davies.

former rugby player
Jonathan Davies.

8.00 Dad's Army. Captain
Mainwaring organises a
dance in an attempt to boost
platoon morale, but Pike
interrupts proceedings to
interrupts proceedings to
announcement regarding his
griffriend Violet. (R)

8.30 The Secret Life of Mary
Poppins: A Culture Show
Special. Victoria Coren
Mitchell explores the life of
author PL Travers, whose
books the film Mary Poppins
was based on.
Janet Street-Porter, Sandi
Torgue of panellist Man
Davies as host Stephen Fry
asks a range of unusual
questions on the topic of
kinky.

10.15 Film: Carnage. (2011)

kinky.

10.15 Film: Carnage. (2011)
Premiere. Black comedy,
with Jodie Foster, Kate
Winslet, Christoph Walz and
John C Reilly.

11.35 Snoder: UK Championship.
Action from the opening

round at the Barbican Centre



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#### What's On!

#### **SUNDAY'S TV** 1.12.13

#### CHOICE



Tony Robinson

#### 1066: The Lost Battlefield – A Time Team Special

where the Battle of Hastings was fought in 1066. The title of the conflict should give archaeologists a major clue, but apparently no evidence for it has ever been found – so have they been barking up the wrong ree all these years? Tony Robinson looks on as a dig once again comes up with nothing – but cutting edge aerial technology could hold the key to unlocking secrets a thousand years old, including why Harold lost, and William became a

6.00 Breakfast. 7.40 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Fern Britton Meets Susan Boyer. 11.00 Sunday 1

Peak District leg of next.
year's Tour de France.
7.20 Strictly Come Dancing: The
Results. Tess Daly and
Claudia Winkleman reveal
which couples are in the
dance-off, leaving their fates
in the hands of the judges,
and Alfie Boe performs a
song from Les Miserables.
8.00 The Paradiss. Katherine
learns the truth about her
proposal leaves Clara
questioning who she really is
and Denise's suspicions
about Moray and Katherine
are confirmed.
9.00 Britain and the Sec. Come

9.00 Britain and the Sea. David Dimbleby follows the trade routes of the west coast of Scotland, sailing down a waterway designed by East Lothian engineer John Rennie and boarding a Clyde

10.00 BBC News: Regional News:

Weather. 10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United 11.45 The Sky at Night. The team hunts for Comet Ison.

#### BBC<sub>2</sub>

BBC2
6.00 This Is BBC Two. 7.05 Film:
Battle Cry. (1955) 9.30 Life in a
Cottage Garden with Carol Klein.
(R) 10.00 Life in a Cottage Garden
with Carol Klein. (R) 10.30
Saturday Kifchen Best Bites. 12.00
Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. (R)
2.45 Paul Holywood's Pies & R
2.45 Paul Holywood's Pies & R
Championship. The second round
continues 5.30 Inspire: The
Olympic Journey. (R)
6.00 Flog III The team meets
people keen to sell their
antiques at auction in
Weston-super-Mare, and
Paul Martin learns about the
town's history. (R)
7.00 Cuba with Simon Reeve.
How economic liberalisation
has affected Cubans and
their society. (R)
8.00 Great Continental Railway
Journeys. Michael Portillo
travels from Bordeaux to
Bilbao. Last in the series.
9.00 Morecambe and Wise: The

Bilbao. Last in the series.

9.00 Morecambe and Wise: The Whole Story, Part two of two. A look at how Eric and Ernie bounced back from the failure of their first TV series to become the nation's most popular entertainers. Dean Lennox Kelly narrates.

10.30 Hebburn. Joe and Dot take advantage of the extra freedom when Pauline goes away. (R)

11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Warwick Davis hosts, with Tom Fletcher, Emma Willis, Affie Boe and Chris Ramsey. (R)

(R) 11.30 Snooker: UK Championship. Highlights from the Barbican Centre in York.

12.20 Snooker: UK Championship Extra. 2.20 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 3.15 Holby City. (R) 4.15 This

Mayfair and Queen Anne models only. † If you find the same or similar product at a lower price, Westmi

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. 6.10 Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.10 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) 7.25 Sooty. 7.35 Horrid Henry. (R) 7.45 Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) 7.50 Victorious. 8.15 Bottom Knocker Storage Hoarders. (R) 10.30 Sunday Side Up. 11.30 Sunday Storage Hoarders. (R) 10.30 Sunday Side Up. 11.30 Sunday Side Up. 11.30 Sunday Storage Hoarders. (R) 12.55 The X Factor. (R) 4.40 Attional Tust. 1.55 Love Your Garden. (R) 2.55 The X Factor. (R) 4.40 Attional Tust. 1.55 Love Your Garden. (R) 2.55 The X Factor. (R) 4.40 Attional Tust. 1.55 Love Your Garden. (R) 2.55 The X Factor. (R) 4.40 Attional Tust. Last in the series. 6.55 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News: Weather.

Surprise Surprise. Cilla Black and Rod Stewart take part. Last in the series. The X Factor Results. Featuring performances by James Arthur and Rebecca

Ferguson.
I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out
of Here! The campers battle
hunger, the jungle and each
other as their third week
continues, but the experience is over for one of them with Ant and Dec announcing another elimination.

10.30 ITV News; Weather. 10.45 Off Their Rockers. An OAP

attempts escapology for the first time. (R) 11.15 Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights of the weekend's top-flight fixtures.

12.15 The Store. 2.15 Motorsport UK. 3.05 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

#### **CHANNEL 4**

6.10 The American Football Show (R) 7.05 FIA GT Series. 8.00 (R) 7.05 FIA 6T Series. 8.00
Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.55 Gadget Man. (R) 3.25 Film: Simpsons. (R) 2.55 Gadget Man. (R) 3.25 Film: Sister Act. (1992) Comedy, starring Whoopi Goldberg. 7.25 Channel 4 News.

7.55 The Political Sol.
8.00 1066: The Lost Battlefield —
A Time Team Special. Tony
Robinson and the team
embark on excavations at
Battle Abbey and nearby
Calobec Hill in an attempt to
uncover the True location of
the Battle of Hastings.
9.00 Homeland. Carrier reunites
with Brody, but the
circumstances are more
difficult than either of them
could have imagined.
Meanwhile, Saul receives
good news from an unlikely 7.55 The Political Slot.

source.
10.00 Rock Night: 50 Years of
Rock Excess – Amps, Whips
and Rebel Riffs. The history
of the enduring music genre,
telling the story of how the
giant bands of the 1970s
changed rock for ever.

changed rock for ever.

1.10 Rock hight: Queens of the
Stone Age – Tiunes Festival
Special. The rock group
perform at the Roundhouse
in London.

1.00 Rock Night: Queen – Live at
Wembley. A performance from
1986. (R) 1.10 American Football
Live. Washington Redskins v New
KOTV Boxing Weekly. (R) 5.20
Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites.
(R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5
6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fill
and Yhe Racing Car. (R) 6.55 Biblie
Gupples. (R) 6.35 The Mr. 65 Biblie
Show. (R) 6.50 Chloe's Closet. (R)
7.00 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R)
7.10 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R)
7.10 Biblie
Mac. (R) 7.45 City of Friends. (R)
7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.10 The
Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and
His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.30
Milkshakel Monkey. (R) 8.10 The
Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and
His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.30
Milkshakel Monkey. (R) 8.10 The
Beat (R) 9.00 Ben and Holly's Little
Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Lelly Jamm. (R)
9.30 LazyTown. 10.00 The Mr Men
Show. (R) 10.15 Power Rangers:
Super Samural (R) 10.50
Slugterra. 11.15 Jungle Bables:
Tarsier Talis. (R) 11.45 Cowboy
Buildiers. (R) 12.45 Film: III Be
Home for Christmas. (1998) 2.30
Film: Snow Dogs. (2002) 4.20
Film: Happy Feet. (2006)
6.20 5 News Weekend.
6.25 Film: Spider-Man 3. (2007)
Superhero sequel, with
Tobey Maguire and Kristen
Dunst.
9.00 **CHANNEL 5** 

#### **DIGITAL**

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May
the Fourth Be with You 8.00 Top
Gear 9.00 Jack Whitehall Live
10.00 Family Guy 10.25 The
Revolution Will Be Televised 10.55
Family Guy 11.20 American Dad!
11.45 American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Rick Stein Tastes the Blues
8.00 Danny Boy: The Ballad That
Bewitched the Word 9.00 The Man
Who Brought the Blues to Britain:
Big Bill Broonzy 10.00 Film: Of
Gods and Men (2010) 11.55 Blues
America
ITV2

3.40 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! 4.45 Film: The Little Vampire (2000) 6.45 Film: Small Soldiers (1998) 9.00 The Xtra Factor 10.00 You've Been Framed! 10.30 I'm a You've Been Framed! 10.30 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! 11.35 Film: State of Play (2009)

2.30 A Touch of Frost 4.30 Inspector Morse 6.45 Agatha Christie's Poirot 9.00 Lewis. A college reunion takes a tragic turn when a guest is found murdered. **11.00** Blue Murder

1174 12.45 Live Darts. 5.00 Police, Camera, Action! 5.30 Storage Wars 6.00 Duck Dynasty 7.00 Live Darts. 11.00 The Power of Darts

4.00 How I Met Your Mother 6.00 Rules of Engagement 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006) 10.00 Rude Tube: Extreme Rides 11.00 The Inbetweeners 11.40 Drifters

3.05 The Last Mimzy (2007) 4.55 Gallipoli (1981) 7.05 The Death and Life of Charlie St Cloud (2010) 9.00 Knight and Day (2010) 11.10 Crazy Heart (2009)

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Dunst.

9.00 Film: Warrior. (2011)
Premiere. Two estranged
brothers enter a mixed
martial arts tournament,
which gradually brings them
into conflict with each other.
Drama, with Joel Edgerton.

Drama, with Joel Edgerton.

11.45 Treblinka: Inside Hitter's
Secret Death Camp. British
archaeologists excavate the
site of the concentration
camp. (R)

camp. (R)

1.15 SuperCasino. 3.05 The
Gadget Show. (R) 4.00 Wildlife
Gadget Show. (R) 4.00 Wildlife
SOS. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 4.50
Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.00
Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.10 Hana's
Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm.
(R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)
5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)
5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)



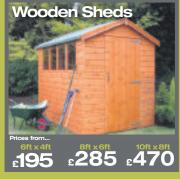
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#### Film Choices

#### Training Day, ITV, 11.10pm

Iraning Day, ITV, 11.10pm
A cop embarks on his first day in narcotics, partnering a seasoned officer whose willingness to flout the rules forces him to question everything he has learnt. As they resort to extreme measures to crack a case, the rookie is left battling his conscience in a dangerous situation. Thriller, starring Denzel Washington, Ethan Hawke, Scott Glenn and Tom Berenger. (2001)

#### The American President, ITV, 11.35pm

The US president embarks on a relationship with an environmental lobbyist – but his delighted opponents jump at the chance to drag the pair through the gutter press, putting their romance and his career in jeopardy. Rob Reiner's political comedy, starring Michael Douglas, Annette Bening, Martin Sheen, Richard Dreyfuss and Michael J Fox. Written by Aaron Sorkin, who would later return to the White House as creator of



Snatch, Channel 5, 10pm
An unlicensed boxing promoter and his dim-witted sidekick convince an Irish gypsy to step in for their injured fighter, but find themselves drawn into a matchfixing racket. Meanwhile, the loot from a diamond heist goes missing, leading to a bloody conflict between Russian gangsters and a Jewish mob. Guy Ritchie's comedy drama, with Jason Statham, Brad Pitt, Beni Del Toro, Mike Reid, Jason Flemyng, Alan Ford and Vinnie Jones, (2000)

#### Three Wise Women, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Inree wise women, channel 5, 3.15pm
A successful doctor is preparing to get married, but
does not realise she is settling for the wrong man. At
Christmas, she receives a visit from her guardian angel,
who tries to stop her making a terrible mistake — with
the aid of the medic's younger selves. Fantasy, starring
Amy Huberman and Fionnula Flanagan. (2010)

#### The Grudge 2, ITV, 11.10pm

After barely surviving a fire that burned a cursed Tokyo house to the ground, Karen Davis is recovering in hospital. Karen's sister Aubrey travels to Japan to bring her home, but her investigation into the suspicious events leading up to her sibling's injury sets Aubrey on a frantic mission to prevent menacing supernatural beings from reaching the US. Horror sequel, with Amber Tamblyn, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Edison Chen and

### **Pick of the Week**

# **Robbie swings back** into the nation's hearts

any Robbie Williams fans have their favourite standout gig, whether it's his 201 Royal Albert Hall show, in which he betted out classic Swing When You're Winning tracks, or the 2003 Knebworth show, captured on the DVD What We Did Last Summer.

Obviously there's been a lot of water under the bridge since then, with his contribution to Take That's superb Progress tour, and his more recent Progress

solo work.

For many, his take on Frank Sinatra
Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr's
classics was a career highlight 12
years ago, and on November 8 there
was a sense that things had come ful
circle.

circle.

Of course not everyone was able to get to the London Palladium to witness his latest evening of swing music, so Robbie Williams One Night at the Palladium is a chance to see what you missed.

Performing tracks from new album Swings Both Ways, he is joined by special guests Lily Allen and Rufus Wainwright and Muppets Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy.

"Moi is always thrilled to perform at the Palladium, no matter who I have to share the stage with," remarked the porcine superstar. "But being up there with moi's dear friend Robbie Williams and Kermie will make this night even more spectaculart"

Well, quite.

Williams has suffered many highs and lows since he last belted out a load of swing classics for a paying

In 2002, his mammoth £80million contract with EMI was one of the biggest music deals in history.

biggest music deals in history.

The allbum Escapology, co-penned with Guy Chambers, included a couple of crackers in Come Undone and Feel. Both peaked at number four in the UK charts, while the album itself was a huge hit worldwide, topping the charts in more than a dozen countries, including here.

His 2005 album Intensive Care was also a global smash, but a year late many fans were disappointed with his follow-up, Rudebox.

Despite impressive production from the likes of Mark Ronson and the Pet

Shop Boys, it looked like Robbie pre-empted his fate and 'came undone'.

By 2009 he scraped back some credibility with the album Reality Killed the Video Star, a project boosted by the work of super producer Trevor Horn.

Admittedly the track Morning Sun struggled in the UK charts, but Bodies was much stronger, hitting number 2.

was much stronger, hitting number 2. In 2010, his long-awaited reunion with Take That saw Williams back on form, both on the album Progress, and their stunning bour, which left each of the five band members a reported £7million better off.

Having healed a much-publicised rift with Gary Barlow, their duet Shame won over Take That fans, while Barlow-penned 2012 track Candy saw Robbie back at the top of the charts for the first time since 2004's Radio.

Now, with old mate Guy Chambers back on board as songwriter, it looks like the 39-year-old has bounced back from the brink once more.

So, if this new century keeps bringing you down, settle back and enjoy as one of Blighty's greatest showmen works his magic once more.



Robbie Williams One Night at the Palladium, Friday, BBC1, 8pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

#### A Great British Christmas with Sarah Beeny Channel 4, 8pm Should Kirstie Allsopp be feeling worried? For the

past couple of years, she's normally cropped up on Channel 4 in December with her own festive special. But this year, she's been gazumped by fellow property expert Sarah Beeny, who is getting in first with her own one-off Christmas documentary. Sarah, her artist husband Graham Swift and their four children are exploring how festive celebrations have changed over the past 200 years. They are particularly keen to discover how previous generations would have marked the season in their stately home, Rise Hall in East Yorkshire, which the clan have spent 10 years restoring. However, they'll also be looking further afield for yuletide rituals, as they learn more about the historical context of everything from garlands to cards.

#### Ripper Street

BBC1, 9pm
Poor Drake. His work life is beset by violence and the sight of grisly deaths – and now it seems he won't be getting much comfort in his home life. Since Ripper Street returned to our screens. Drake has hipper offeet retained to Bella – but a blast from her been happily married to Bella – but a blast from her bast is about to turn their world upside down. Meanwhile, Reid asks Jewish mathematician Isaac Bloom for help when it becomes clear that somebody is trying to upset the fragile peace mong Whitechapel's diverse communities by urning the local churches and synagogues to the ground. Reid has dealt with many weird occurrences furing his police career, but what Bloom tells him

hard-bitten and hard-hearted detective...

#### TUESDAY

#### Pilgrimage with Simon Reeve BBC2, 9pm

Having navigated the Equator and the Indian Ocean, surely it was time for Simon Reeve to explore somewhere closer to home. The affable presenter does just that in his new series, which sees him retracing the adventures of our ancestors. The series commences with Reeve embarking on a 500-mile journey from Lindisfarne to Canterbury. From there, he travels to Lincoln and London, where he joins up with Chaucer fans for the last leg, made famous by the Canterbury Tales.

Along the way, Reeve uncovers the real reason that many medieval peasants undertook pilgrimages: it was an excuse to leave their working lives behind and see the country something most of us can appreciate today

#### WEDNESDAY 28 Up South Africa ITV, 10.35pm

Over the years – and there have been quite a few of them - the Up series has made for sensational viewing and been massively influential. Ever since 1964, documentary, originally a socia study, has returned every seven vears to focus on a varied group of people. It has been a huge hit with audiences. Tonight, we're

updated on the personal journeys of a group of young people born in South Africa during the apartheid era. The country in the meantime has aparticulary integrated, and those same children are now 28. We're about to hear how new opportunities have opened up for them as they've journeyed through their 20s, and how they now lead very different lives, Among them, Lizette says her coal-mining town is the worst place on Earth. while Olwethu discusses her marriage, and Willem talks sport now that he's a rugby union international for the Springboks.

#### THURSDAY Keeping Britain Safe 24/7 BBC1, 8,30pm

Most of us go through life without giving much of a second thought to what barriers stand between us and catastrophe at any given moment. This

documentary pays tribute to the unsung individuals who keep those barriers in place, through their tireless work - be they the firefighters kept

busy on Bonfire Night or the midwives dealing with an autumnal baby boom Julia Bradbury and Matt Allwright are the of presenters championing their causes, and they also presenters championing their causes, and they also turn the spotlight

on railway workers that keep the country moving in the face of those dreaded leaves on the line

#### FRIDAY

### Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom

BBC2, 9pm It's safe to say, we're a little bit jealous of wildlife filmmakers Gordon Buchanan and Justine Evans, who are currently enjoying exploring deep into the little-known jungle wilderness of Burma. Still, it might not be quite the same thing, but at least we get to follow them every step of the way with this series. In the second instalment, Gordon and Justine make their way into the mountains of western Burma in search of the sun bear, the Asian golden cat and the clouded leopard.

Meanwhile, zoologist Ross Piper and his team continue their mission to form a wildlife survey in the hope that they'll eventually present it to the government of Burma, and undercover filming in a border town leads them to a shocking discovery.

#### e at the Apollo

BBC1, 9.30pm It's not like 8 Out of 10 Cats star Sean Lock struggles has not like of color in class sail deal cook struggles as a comedian, but if the punchlines ever did dry up he could have a career as an impressionist – at least he does if this edition of the stand-up show is anything to go by, which sees him adopt an eerily convincing Bruce Forsythe and a suitably over-the-top Bruno Tonioli. That's before showing off his compering skills by introducing sets by grumpy stand-up Romesh Ranganathan and actor and funnyman Marcus Brigstocke (who proves he actually has a pretty good Columbo up his sleeve).

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3 6 8 2

5

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Sudoku

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Fill in the grid below so that every column,

2

5 7 9

8

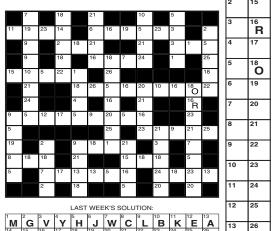
#### Puzzler

# Brain Gym

No.249

#### Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



B K E

#### **Double Crossword**

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

#### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

- Natural tendency for the allocation of one's property (11)
   This makes revolu-
- tionary processes easier (3) 10. Hurried back to restrict food supplies that's the story (9)
- To cause aversion. make somebody
- retire (5)

  13. Disguised Belgian often seen in Calcutta (7)

  14. Scandinavian article served in a dish
- cle served in a dish (6) 16. From the prognos-ticator a clearly divine revelation (6) 18. Go in search of
- strong drink, we hear it provides vegetable food (3-
- 19. The settlement will be to his advantage
- (5)
  20. To bring in a busy worker is of considerable consequence (9)
  21. Meadow showing endless foliage (3)
  22. He puts the desti-
- nation on the top

#### Down

- 2 & 15 Dn. Describing the show with badly cast leading actors? (3-7)
- 3. A list of jurors from Nepal (5)

  4. The writer needs a bed in the south-
- east (6) 5. Coach gives the terrain a different look
- (7)
  6. Few will be involved in this kind of government (9)
- 7. This couldn't be expected from an enemy vessel! (11)

  8. Opposed to a state
- set-up make it a free land! (4-7) 12. Ananas - a conifer
- bearing fruit (9) 15. See 2 Down 17. Make good representative with a distinctive bearing
- 19. Crowns that are mo-nastically unlocked?
- 21. Falsely state the position of the golf-ball (3)

# **Quick Clues:**

- Across 1. Explorers (11)
- 9. Favourite (3)
- 10. Respectable (9)
- 11. Disagreeable (5) 5. Hates (7)
- **13.** Determine (7) 6. Uprising (9)
- 14. Carry to excess (6) 16. Have ambitions (6)
- 18. Performer (7) 19. Ate dinner (5)
- 20. Amuse (9)
- 21. Study (3)
- 22. Unceremonious (4.3.4)

#### Down

- 2. Suitable (3) 3. Robust (5)
- 4. Divulge (6)

- 7. Dogmatic (11)
- 8. Eternal (5-6)
- **12.** Watcher (9)
- **15.** Merit (7)
- 17. Keep (6)
- 19. Dullard (5) 21. Type of lettuce (3)

# every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Flag; 3 Priority; 9 Epigram; 10 Theta; 11 Boiled sweets: 13 Touchy; 15 Salam; 17 Point-to-point; 20 Drive; 21 Article; 22 Linesmen; 23 Ores. Down: 1 Fleabite; 2 Alibi; 4 Remiss; 5 On the warpath; 6 Inertia: 7 Year; 8 Free thinkers; 12 Listless; 14 Utopian; 16 Strafe; 18 Incur; 19 Idol. QUICK - Across: 1 Go by; 3 Prodiga; 9 Dismiss; 10 Surge; 11 Posthumously; 13 Endear; 15 Escape; 17 Contempible; 20 Ocean; 21 Drought; 22 Steadier; 23 Stay. Down: 1 Godspeed; 2 Basis; 4 Resume; 5 Disquisition; 6 Gorilla; 7 Lees; 8 Disheartened; 12 Recently; 14 Diocese; 16 Smudge; 18 Bight; 19 Toss.



"I | X | U | Z | Q | O | S | P | R | N | D | F

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cupboard and in the lounge there is a bay window, feature brick fire-place with living flame-effect gas fire and the refitted kitchen has a built in oven and hob, extractor fan and sliding patio doors to the front

front.

The dining room has a ceramic tiled floor and the second bedroom two has sliding patio doors to the rear garden while there is a white suite in the bathroom.

The rear garden has two patio

areas and a good sized lawn.
For further information contact
Chariot Estates on 01543 686877

# paul**dubberley**

Call Willenhall Branch on 01902 633323

or email: willenhall@pauldubberley.co.uk

#### Stretton Road, Willenhall







3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property on the Popular Beacon Estate, For Sale with No Upward Chain and Potential To Upgrade Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Side Passageway with Wc. Storage and Potential Utility, 1st Floor Shower Room. Double Glazing and Central Heating, Driveway Providing Off Road Parking, Front and Rear Gardens, Call Paul Dubberley on

Front - Driveway providing off road parking, lawned front garden, pathway leading to entrance door and second entrance door to side passageway Entrance hallway - Double glazed side facing window, stairs to first floor, double radiator, doors to lounge and kitchen.

Lounge 12' 8" x 12' 7" (3.872m x 3.842m) - Double glazed front facing bay window, gas fire and surround, door to kitchen/diner, double radiator, Kitchen/Diner 19'5" x 10'3" (5.933m x 3.133m) - Range of wall and base units, work surface, 2 double glazed rear facing windows, one and half sink and draainer with a mixer tap, part laminate effect floor, 2 double radiators, door to side passageway/potential utility, door to pantry, dining area. Side passageway and potential utility - Upvc front facing door, doors to wc and brick built storage, rear facing window, rear facing upvc door to garden Wc - Front facing window, low flush wc.

First Floor Landing - Double glazed side facing window, doors leading to bedrooms 1, 2, 3, bathroom and airing cupboard.

Bedroom One 13' 4" x 10' 3" (4.081 m x 3.147m) - Double glazed rear facing window, double radiator, door to built in wardrobe.

Bedroom Two 10' 9" x 10' 4" (3.304 m x 3.166 m) - Double glazed front facing window, double radiator, door to built in wardrobe Bedroom Three 8' 9" x 7' 8" (2.694m x 2.359m) - Double glazed side facing window, double radiator.

Bathroom - Offset corner shower cubicle and electric shower over, double radiator, low flush wc. sink and pedestal, double glazed rear facing window. Garden - Paved patio area, pathway leading to rear garden mainly laid to lawn and enclosed with fence panels.

WEDNESBURY: 0121 505 3533 GREAT BRIDGE: 0121 522 3733 WEST BROMWICH: 0121 525 2111 WILLENHALL: 01902 633323 BILSTON: 01902 494966 STONE CROSS: 0121 588 5485 LETTINGS: 0121 525 5520

Visit our new website at: www.pauldubberley.co.uk

# DIGWOOD

# 93 lots to Include Properties On Behalf Of:











At Holte Suite, Aston Villa Football Ground

12th December 2013

AUCTION

Order of Sale			
Lot 1	Former Toilets Washwood Heath Road, Washwood Heath, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant	
Lot 2	2 Hamstead Road, Handsworth, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant	
Lot 3	Land Adj. 2 Berners Street, Lozells, Birmingham	Land	
Lot 4	Land Adj. 155 Wellington Road, Handsworth, Birmingham	Land	
Lot 5	Land at junction of Witton Lane & Holte Road, Aston, Birmingham	Land	
Lot 6	127 Gravelly Hill North, Erdington, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 7	6 Nevin Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 8	27 Elmwood Gardens, Handsworth, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 9	33 Kenelm Road, Small Heath, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 10	17-19 Gordon Road, off Heathfield Road, Lozells, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 11	45 Chelmarsh Avenue, Castle Croft, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant	
Lot 12	25-35 Park Avenue, Hockley, Birmingham	Ground Rents	
Lot 13	Sandiacre, Nottingham, Nottinghamshirev	Ground Rents	
Lot 14	81 Falmouth Road, Buckland End, Birmingham	Ground Rent	
Lot 15	94 Merrivale Road, Smethwick, Birmingham	Ground Rent	
Lot 16	16 Salisbury Road, Washwood Heath, Birmingham	Ground Rent	
Lot 17	1-4 Jackson Close, Church Road, Norton Caines	Ground Rents	
Lot 18	Moseley Court, Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham	Ground Rents	
Lot 19	61 Abbey Road, Great Malvern, WorcestershireDevelopment/Rede	velopment Opportunity	
Lot 20	136 Middlemore Industrial Estate, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant	
Lot 21	Halifax House, 14-15 Frederick Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant	
Lot 22	40 New Road, Solihull, West Midlands	Residential Vacant	
Lot 23	915 Alum Rock Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 24	231 Queslett Road, Great Barr, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 25	324 Deans Road, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant	
Lot 26	90 Whitegates Road, Coseley	Residential Vacant	
Lot 27	41 Arthur Road, Erdington, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 28	42 Woodbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 29	513 City Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	Residential Vacant	
Lot 30	Former Coroner's Office, Crocketts Lane & High Street, Smethwick,		
	Birmingham		
Lot 31	41 Brynmawr Road, Lanesfield, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant	
	ENTRIES NOW II	WITED E	

1 -4 00	E2 Halifast Bood Whilds Cross Cutton Caldfield	Decidential Vesse
	53 Holifast Road, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield 1 Gough Avenue, Wolverhampton	
	The Nesbitt Arms, Churchill Way, Stafford	
	5 Elm Court. Meriden Business Park. Copse Drive. Meriden	
	13 Green Road. Dudley	
	31 Norton Crescent, Bilston	
	31 Wallace Road, Bilston	
	The Red Lion, Billington Lane, Derrington, Stafford	
	3 Hardon Road, Wolverhampton	
	52A Thompson Avenue, Wolverhampton	
	8-12 Cannon Hill Road, Basall Heath, Birmingham	
	182 Kingsley Avenue, Kettering, Northamptonshire	
Lot 44		
	10 Crown Lofts, Marsh Street, Walsall	
	42 Salisbury Road, Washwood Heath, Birmingham	
	64-65 Lodgefield Road, Halesowen, Birmingham	
	21 Hampton Court Road, Harborne, Birmingham	
	135 Kent Road, Wednesbury	
	158 High Street, Brierley Hill	
	5 Dovedale Avenue, Willenhall	
	10 Hunton Court, Erdington, Birmingham	
	32 Green Court, Erdington, Birmingham	
	22 Ash Road, Dudley	
	221 Park Road, Hockley, Birmingham	
	Unit 2 Pikehelve Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	
	Land Adj. 94 Grange Road, Small Heath, Birmingham	
	Rubery Market R/o 168-210 New Road, Rubery	
Lot 58	Investment	,,
Lot 59	106 Osprey Drive, Russells Hall, Dudley	Residential Vacan
Lot 60	94-95 Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick, Birmingham	Commercial Vacar
Lot 61	233 High Street, Erdington, Birmingham	Commercial Vacan

	, ,	Actori Villa i cotbali c	around
1	Lot 62	15 Mary Vale Road, Bournville, Birmingham	Residential Investment
	Lot 63	Land at Hospital Lane (R/o 59B Mason Street), Coseley	Land
	Lot 64	1 Lower High Street, Cradley Heath, Birmingham	.Commercial Investment
	Lot 65	448 Birchfield Road, Birmingham Commercia	I/Residential Investment
	Lot 66	280 Pershore Road South, Kings Norton, Birmingham  Development Opportunity	Commercial Vacant/
	Lot 67	15 Hallam Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Residential Investment
	Lot 68	38 Nicholls Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Residential Investment
	Lot 69	8A Oaktree Lane, Selly Oak, Birmingham	.Commercial Investment
	Lot 70	Storage Land, Leys Road Industrial Estate, Leys Road, Brierley Hill	Commercial Vacant
	Lot 71	1 Corner of Moor Street & Albion Street, Brierley Hill	.Commercial Investment
	Lot 72	3 Worcester Parade, Gloucester	Residential Vacant
	Lot 73	13 Little Quillet Court, Manor Avenue, Cam, Gloucestershire	Residential Vacant
		73 Ardav Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands	
	Lot 75	Former Fire Station, Barrett Street, Smethwick, BirminghamCommer Opportunity	cial Vacant/Development
	Lot 76	70-71 Windmill Lane, Smethwick, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant
	Lot 77	106 Westminster Road, Handsworth, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
	Lot 78	15-17 Idmiston Croft, Druids Heath, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant
	Lot 79	Land 7 bcj Portway Hill, Tividale, Oldbury	Land
	Lot 80	23 Holder Road, Yardley, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
	Lot 81	29 Holder Road, Yardley, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
	Lot 82	43 Perrywood Road, Great Barr, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
	Lot 83	Bungalow R/o 107 Edward Street, Cannock	Residential Vacant
	Lot 84	24 Holloway Street, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
	Lot 85		
	Lot 86	28 Gracemere Crescent, Hall Green, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
	Lot 87	284 Tat Bank Road, Oldbury	Residential Vacant
	Lot 88	22 Netheravon Close, Druids Heath, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
		87 Winchester Drive, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham	
	Lot 90	22 Bickton Close, Erdington, Birmingham	
_	Lot 91	27 Larches Lane, WolverhamptonSOLD PRIO	Residential Vacant
		0404 000	



# LETTINGS & MORE



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11 Market Place Willenhall WV13 2AA

# **Property**

# First-time buyers boost with village development



Hatherton Place, a development from Morris Homes, in Cheslyn Hay, with two-bedroom homes starting from £119,800

MORRIS Homes is urging first-time buyers in South Staffordshire to take advantage of its Great Start scheme to get on the property ladder with a deposit

scheme to get on the property ladder with a deposit of just five per cent.

The initiative is available at Morris' Hatherton Place development in Cheslyn Hay to help local people buy their first home, and is only available to people who live and work in South Staffordshire.

With new figures showing 63 per cent of people delay buying a home because they are worried about raising a big enough deposit, the scheme can help first-time buyers get on the move sooner than they thought.

Buyers using Great Start only need five per cent of the value of the property as a deposit to secure a new home at the New Horse Road development. Morris will then provide a loan of a further 20 per cent to use as a deposit.

With a combined deposit of 25 per cent the buyer is able to access a greater range of mortgages with lower interest rates, providing the extra assistance needed to get onto the property ladder.

Under the scheme, buyers own the full property. The loan is interest-free for the first five years, and needs to be paid back over 10 years or when the house is sold. The initiative is only available to first-time buyers with a maximum household income of £60,000, and is offered on a selection of two-bedroom Budworth properties at Hatherton Place. Cindy Cade, regional sales director for Morris, said: "Our Great Start scheme is ideal for local buyers in South Staffordshire that are struggling to get on the proper South Staffordshire that are struggling to get on the property ladder, as it can make it easier for them to secure a markers?"

erty ladder, as it can make it easier for them to secure a mortgage."

Hatherton Place combines a tranquil village location with convenient access for commuting into Cannock, Birmingham and Stoke-on-Trent. The two-bedroom homes available at the site with Great Start are on sale from £149,750 or £119,800 with the scheme.

For more information about the homes and offers at Hatherton Place visit New Horse Road, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall, WS6 7BH, call 01922 419 033 or visit morrishmers and

#### Wednesfield 01902 732324

Willenhall

01902 631151

**Bloxwich** 

01922 478104

**Tipton** 

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Wednesburu

0121 505 1818

**Bilston** 

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Sedgley

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£575 PCM

£500 PCM

WILLENHALL STUBBINGTON CLOSE Extended four bedrooms semi

D/glazing • Fitted kitchen • Off road

#### WILLENHALL



c/heating & Part d/glaz
 way • Energy rating 'D'



NOW £550 PCM WILLENHALL

NOW £525 PCM

WILLENHALL

NOW £550 PCM

HOLYHEAD ROAD

Beautifully presented ground floor

Modern kitcher

Master bedroom • Ensuite •

Bathroom with shower • Energy rating 'TBC'



NOW £450 PCM



GROVE En-suite gas c/l & alloo

WILLENHALL

ARE ONLY THAT COVERS UP TO THREE APPLICANTS! OF THE RENT IS REQUIRED





# Estate House, Darwall Street, Walsall WS1 1DA 0121 289 3838

December 2013 at 6.00pm Precisely

Banks's Stadium, Walsall Football Club, Bescot Crescent. Walsall. WS1 4SA



#### **Weston Street**



Dining Room, Lounge, Kitchen, Lobby, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Yare

**GUIDE PRICE £50,000 - £60,000** 

#### Tamworth Road Kingsbury



**GUIDE PRICE £40,000** 

#### Walsall Wood Road Aldridge





**GUIDE PRICE £40,000 - £50,000** 

# Church Lane Fradley



need of complete modernisation and improvement, this detach In need of complete modernisation and improvement, this defaches bumpalow is situated in a semi rural setting on the outsides of Fradley, whilst being within easy travelling distance of Lichfield, Burton on Trent and Derby, Set on a good size pilot, the property offers tremendous scope for improvement and offers an ideal investment opportunity, the accommodation comprises: Echologe Proxt, Reception Hall, Lourge Dising Kitchen, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore

**GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000** 

### **Sutton Road**



**GUIDE PRICE £200,000 - £220,000** 

### Foundry Lane Pelsall



**GUIDE PRICE £5.000 Plus** 

#### Tamworth Road Kingsbury



**GUIDE PRICE £40,000** 

#### **Wolverhampton Road West** Walsall



**GUIDE PRICE £120,000 - £140,000** 

# Harrowby Place Willenhall



ASH OFFERS ONLY (due to mining issues) are invited for th ally styled extended gas centrally heated and double gla traditionally styled extended gas centrally heated and double glazed semi-detached residence. Having undergone considerable improvement and modernisation. Set in a quiet cul-de-sac the property suits an investor with good rental yield potential. The property comprises: Porch, Entrane Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, L-Shaped Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000** 

#### Wallace Road **Birmingham**



**GUIDE PRICE £50,000 Plus** 

# Trafalgar Court Tividale



**GUIDE PRICE £15,000 Plus** 

#### **Darlaston Road** Walsall



**GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £65,000** 

# Beacon Street Walsall



ement and modernisation ideally suited to the needs of a first me buyer or investor. Constructed of brick under a pitch tiled root the property is set back from the road behind a small fore garden and

**GUIDE PRICE £50,000 - £60,000** 

Viewing: 4th Dec at 2pm



Snowdrop Close Clayhanger

GUIDE PRICE £125,000 - £145,000

#### **Wolverhampton Road**



**GUIDE PRICE £65,000 plus** 

### Bloxwich



# Emery Close Birmingham



e property is situated in the residential area of Erdington close to al shops and amenities. Transport links are provided by Gravelly Hil rail station and the M6 motorway (junction 6) is easily accessible. The property comprises a semi detached three bedroom house arranged over ground and first floors. The property requires updating. The roperty includes:Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms ate W.C, Garage, Fore and Rear G

**GUIDE PRICE £90,000 plus** 











**NEW** 



For full details visit our website

# www.urbanlinklettings.com 01922 723 743

12 Ablewell Street, Walsall, WS1 2EQ



- 2 spacious reception rooms

- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Downstairs shower room



#### Treetops Drive

- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing



- **Gower Street**
- A superb 3 bed mid terrace proper
  2 spacious reception rooms
  Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing



- Downstairs bathroom with bath and shower Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing

- Double Glazing throughout



- Open planned lounge/kitchen area
   Stylish kitchen with integral appliances
- Pleasant family bathroom with shower
- £495pcm **NEW Brewer Street**

CALL 04922 T20743 FOR A FREE VALUATION

£435 pcm

- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
   Pleasant upstairs family bathroom
- Gas central heating and Double glazing

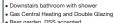


- Stylish bathroom with shower
- Double Glazing throughout

- Parking, DSS accepted

£550 pcm

Rear garden, DSS accepted



 A traditional 3 bed mid terrace propert 1 spacious through lounge

Dora street

450 pcm



- Open planned lounge and kitchen area
   Brand new kitchen with cooker
- Pleasant bathroom with walk in showe



- Downstairs family bathroom Gas Central heating throughout

#### **Broadstone Avenue**

- Pleasant bathroom with shower



- DSS accepted EPC rating D



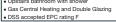
- A fully re-furbished 2 bed apartme 1 spacious reception room Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing







- 2 spacious reception rooms
   New fitted kitchen with cooker
- . Upstairs bathroom with showe



Thornbury Road,

A modern fitted ktichen with appliances

Pleasent family bathroom with shower

Electric heating and Double glazing

Allocated parking space EPC rating 0



Sandwell Street

Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing

1 good size reception room Large kitchen/diner with cooke Pleasant bathroom with jacuzzi bath

- A well presented 2 bed semi detact
  1 spacious reception room
  Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Upstairs bathroom with bath and shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing



- Wolverhampton Road
- New fitted kitchen with cooke
- Downstairs bathroom with show Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing





#### St Georges Court, Walsall

- A Superb 1 bed 2nd floor apartmen
   Open planned lounge/kitchen area
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker Pleasant family bathroom
- Parking space and views of the town
   DSS accepted EPC rating C



- Modern fitted kitchen with cooke Downstairs family bathroom with shower

**Wolverhampton Street** 

splendid 1 bed ground floor apart spacious reception room

Pleasant family bathroom with shower

Modern fitted kitchen with cooker

Double Glazing throughout
 DSS accepted EPC rating B

- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Modern fitted kitchen Downstairs family bathroom Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing DSS accepted EPC rating D

# **Dora Street** A traditional 3 bed mid terra 2 spacious reception rooms

£450 pcm



# **Parker Street**

- A re-furbished 1 bed 1st floor
   1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen Good size family bathroom Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
   DSS accepted EPC rating G



**West Bromwich Road** 

A 2 bed end terrace prope 1 spacious reception room

Upstairs family bathroom

DSS accepted

Fitted kitchen/diner with cooker

Gas Central Heating throughout

# A superb 3bed semi detached property A spacious lounge with feature fireplace

 A modern fitted kitchen with cooker & hob A pleasent upstairs family bathroom Gas central heating and Double glazing Fully enclosed rear garden & Parking



A modern 1 bed ground flo 1 Spacious reception room

# A superb 1 bed 1st floor apartment Open planned lounge/kitchen area

Modern fitted kitchen with appliances Stylish bathroom with shower Secure intercom system



#### **Lewis Street**

- Good size fitted kitchen with cooke Upstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted EPC rating C



#### The Shambles

- A re-furbished 1 bed apartment
   1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker Pleasant bathroom with shower Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing



£400 pcm







### Willenhall

# SKITTS

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#### willenhall@skitts.net



#### WILLENHALL

#### YALE ROAD

- Superior Detached Family Residence No Chain
- Large Lounge Dining Room Impressive Breakfast Kitchen
- Four Bedrooms 2 En-Suites Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing Gas Central Heating Energy Rating 'C'
- Garage Driveway Rear Gardens
   £249,950



#### PORTOBELLO WAITE ROAD

- Extended Improved Traditional Detached
- Three Bedrooms Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge Dining Room Breakfast Kitchen
- Gas CH Double Glazing Driveway
- Pleasant Rear Gardens Energy Rating 'E



#### WILLENHALL HARPER STREET

- Superb End Town House Popular Location No Chain
- Lounge Fitted Kitchen Energy Rating 'D'
- Two Double Bedrooms Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating Double Glazing
- Pleasant Rear Gardens Allocated Parking £104,995

#### us now on 01902 631151 FREE MARKET APPRAISALS -Call



- Appointed Individual Detoched Residence with WC, Large Lounge with Dining Area Re-Fitted Kitche Double Bedrooms Superb Luxury Bathroom cantral Heating, Double Glazing Garage htful Extensive Rear Gardens Energy Rating 'D'

£185,000



- opera Link Detached Property Populor (al De Soc Location Spacious Lounge Dining Noom Conservatory Kitchen Ihree Bedrooms Re-Fliefd Bothroom Interry Rating TBC Gar Central Healing System Double Glazing George Driveway Rear Gordens





COPPICE FARM



#### BENTLEY SILVERSTONE CLOSE

£154,950



£149,950



- Well Presented Extended Modern Style Semi Detoched
  Lounge & Spocious Dining Room o Impressive Breakfast Kitchen
  Three Bedrooms & Re-Filted Bethroom
  Gas Central Heating System ® P----11

  Formal System & P----11
- - £147,500















WILLENHALL





WILLENHALL





VICTORIA COURT, GRANVILLE STREET

£82,500 NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL



#### COPPICE FARM

Branches also at:

Bloxwich. Wednesfield, Wednesbury. Bilston, Great Bridge and Sedgley











If you're thinking of selling or are on the market and having no interest, call Skitts Estate Agents for a Free No Obligation Market Appraisal of your home on 01902 631151









# K.Stuart Swash

### PROPERTY AUCTION 3RD DECEMBER 2013



#### 49 LICHFIELD ROAD, WEDNESFIELD

Well located Shop Unit and Living Accommodation. Main Shop, Staff Room, W.C.

Self-contained First Floor Three Bed Flat, Spacious recently fitted Kitchen and Bathroom, Balcony, Garage, EPC: Shop E. Flat G

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 9.30 a.m

Guide: £118.000 / £123.000



#### ADDERLEY LODGE, 220 PENN ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

An impressive double fronted detached Victorian Residence offering spacious Accommodation, fine Hall, W.C., Three Reception, large Kitchen, Utility, Pantry Sun Lounge, Cellar, Four Bedrooms, Two Bath/ Shower, Double Garage, large Work Shop, lovely grounds. EPC: F

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER
② 11.30 a.m
PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO VEHICULAR ACCESS AT THE TIME OF VIEWING — PARK IN COALWAY AVENUE / COALWAY ROAD

Guide: £290.000 / £ 310.000



#### 3 BEECHWOOD DRIVE. WIGHTWICK

Cul-de-sac position within prime residential location - a well proportioned Bungalow – would now benefit from upgrade – Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Study, Utility facility off, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, generous Loft space, Garage, lovely Rear Garden. EPC: F

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 12.30 p.m

Guide: £175,000 / £185,000



#### THE OLD POST OFFICE, 6 THE SQUARE, **IRONBRIDGE**

An impressive three-storey building with outlook to the world renowned Iron Bridge. Post Office Shop area, Cellar, Lounge, Dining Room, large Kitchen, Utility Four large Bedrooms and Bathroom. Self contained unit offering Sitting Room, Kitchen, Shower Room, Patio Garden. EPC: E

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 9.45 a.m.

Guide: £230,000 / £240,000



#### **180 WOLVERHAMPTON STREET,** BILSTON

Large spacious Victorian End Terrace, corner position, immaculately presented.Hall, Two Reception, Sun Lounge, newly fitted luxury Kitchen and BathroomTwo Double Bedrooms, Shower Room, spacious Loft area, large rear Garden. EPC: E

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 9.45 a.m

Guide: £80,000 / £95,000



#### **6 WHARF STREET, HORSELEY FIELDS,** WOLVERHAMPTON

A large Semi, Foregarden, off-road Parking, Large Hall, W.C., Lounge, big Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas C.H. EPC: C

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 10.45 a.m

Guide: £78,000 / £83,000



#### 11 PEAR TREE LANE. WEDNESFIELD

Conveniently located and accessible to shops and schools - a Detached House offering Porch, Hall, Through Lounge / Diner, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, 70ft, Rear Garden, EPC: F

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 11.45 a.m

Guide: £110.000 / £115.000



#### 44 GROSVENOR STREET. WOLVERHAMPTON

A partially improved Semi, Three smart Bedrooms, excellent Loft space, New Bathroom and Kitchen, Lounge and extended Dining Room, Garage, Store, Rear Garden, FPC: F

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 11.45 a.m

Guide: £54.000 / £59.000



#### 298 NEWHAMPTON ROAD WEST, WOLVERHAMPTON

Large Victorian House with big rooms. Hall, Two Reception, large Kitchen, Rear Hall, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms & Box Room, spacious Bathroom, Gated vehicular access and off-road Parking, generous grounds. Space to develop (STPP). EPC: D

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 10.30 a.m

Guide: £125,000 / £130,000



#### 14 CLAYTON CLOSE, BLAKENHALL, **WOLVERHAMPTON**

Convenient cul-de-sac location, UPVC & CH., Foregarden

Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility area, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, long Rear Garden.

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 12.45 a.m

Guide: £64,000 / £69,000



#### 25 MILFORD ROAD, BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON

Investment - Currently producing £5,400 p.a.x.Large Semi in good location, Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Laundry, Three Bedrooms, white Bathroom, long Garden. EPC: F

VIEWING: THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER @ 2.00 p.m

Guide: £74,000 / £79,000



#### 1 BROWN STREET, BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON

Investment currently producing £7,020 pax Well situated End Terraced, Two Reception, Kitchen, large Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, long

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 29th & 30th NOVEMBER @ 12.30 p.m

Guide: £75,000 / £80,000

2 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton WV1 4BL **a** 01902 710626 / 424044

e-mail: swashauctions@btconnect.com www.kstuartswash.co.uk

# )IXONS Estate Agents

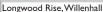
Sales & Lettings Willenhall 01902 690331

Doing More...

Wood Lane Close, Short Heath



Deceptive family home in an exclusive cul-de-sac this three bedroom home with two bathrooms really must be viewed.





A three bedroom semi detached home situated on an exceptional corner plot with garage and driveway to

Anson Road, Walsall



A well presented three bedroom semi detached home benefitting from a further downstairs shower room.

Haley Street, Willenhall



A three bedroom terraced home comprising re-fitted kitchen and en-suite WC to master bedroom. Viewing Ampleforth Drive, Willenhall



#### £165,000

A well presented three bedroom detached home on a popular development with easy access to Black Country Route and M6.

Bute Close, Willenhall



#### £140,000

A three bedroom semi detached bungalow situated on an exceptional plot in a cul-de-sac location on the sought after Summer Hayes development.

King Edward Street, Darlaston



Refurbished Victorian property benefitting from a new kitchen and a bathroom. Viewing highly recommended.

Cinder Way, Wednesbury



A two bedroom ground floor maisonette in need of cosmetic improvements. Viewing is advised early to avoid disappointment. No chain

Cadnam Close, Willenhall



A well presented three bedroom detached home situated on an exceptional plot with ample parking to

King Edward Street, Darlaston Green



#### £130,000

A well presented three bedroom semi detached home situated on a popular road moments from Darlaston Town Centre

Bloomfield Drive, Willenhall



#### £79,000

A three bedroom terraced home situated in New Invention. Benefitting from re-fitted kitchen, bathroom, driveway to the fore and downstairs WC.

Squires Grove, Willenhall



#### £45,000

A well presented two bedroom, two bathroom apartment situated in the Squires Grove development Offered on a 40% shared ownership basis.



#### £140,000

An extended and immaculately presented three bedroom semi detached home situated in a cul-de-sac location.

Anson Road, Walsall



#### £110,000

A three bedroom semi detached home situated moments from junction 10 M6. Presented in excellent order with re-fitted kitchen and bathroom.

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  DrivewayeFront & Rear Gardens



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- Three Bedroom Terraced House
  Lounge-Kitchen-Family Bathroom
  Gardens-Off Road Parking-D.Glazing
  Gas Heating-Sorry NO DHSS or No Pets

#### £495 PCM



- CORNWALL PLACE
- Lounge/Dining Roome/KitcheneBathrod
   Double GlazingeGas Central Heating
   Sorry NO DHSS, Pets or Smokers

#### £475 PCM



#### Walsall

- Walsall
  LEWIS STREET

   Two Bedroom Terrace
   Two Reception Rooms
   Bathroom•Double Glazing
   Central Heating•Rear Garden
  - £450 PCM





- THORNBURY ROAD
- One Bedroom Apartment
  Lounge
  Fitted kitchen
  Bathroom
  Electric Heating
  Double Glazing
  Parking
  Sorry No DHSS

£400 PCM



#### Walsall

- THE EXCHANGE

   First Floor One Bedroom Flat SLANEY ROAD

  • One Bedroom Ma
- Above Retail Premises
   Lounge/Kitchen
   Seperate W.C.





- Willenhall LUCKNOW ROAD
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  Lounge
  Lounge
  Citchen
  Bathroom
  D.Glazing
  Central Heating
  Gardens
  Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers



LANCASTER PLACE

- HENLEY CLOSE room Semi-Detached
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
  Kitchen•Family Bathroom•Rear Garden
  Garage•Gas Heating•Sorry No DHSS

#### £475 PCM



- **BOTANY ROAD**
- Intel Bedroom Tenace Property
   Lounge●Kitchen●Family Bathroom
   Front and Rear Gardens●Front Driveway
   Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing



- Bloxwich
  VICTORIA AVENUE

  Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
  Large Lounge=Fitted Kitchen
  Shower Room=Communal Gardens
  Gas Heating & D.Glazing=Sorry No DHSS
- Waisaii
  LISTER CLOSE

   Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  Lounge Dining Room
  Kitchen Family Bathroom
  DHSS Considered

Walsall

MARTON COURT





#### Bloxwich GREEN LANE

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  Two Reception Rooms
  Kitchen
  Ground Floor Bathroom
  Rear Garden
  D.Glazing & Gas Heating
- One & Two Bed Apartments
  LoungeoFitted kitchenoBathroom
  Double GlazingoElectric Heating
  DHSS AcceptedoOff Road Parking



- ITTLE STATION STREET
   1 bed town centre first floor:
- Large Lounge

  Kitchen

  Gas Central Heating

  Cul-De-Sac Location

  Sorry No DHSS,



- 1 bed town centre first floor apartment
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- LORD STREET

   Three Bedroom S m Semi Detached
- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
  Lounge•Dining Room•Kitchen/Utility
  Family Bathroom•D.Glazed/ Gas Heating
  Front & Rear Gardens•DHSS Accepted Three Bedroom Semi Detach
   Lounge●Dining Room
   Kitchen●Family Bathroom
   Gardens●DHSS ACCEPTED



- Walsall
  SMITHS FLOUR MILL
   Two Bedroom Apartment
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   Electric Heating•D.Glazing
   Off Road Parking•Sorry no DHSS

#### £475 PCM



#### Willenhall

- HARROWBY PLACE Semi-Detached House
- Two Reception Rooms
   Kitchen
   New Fitted Bathroom
   New Carpets
   D.Glazing & Gas Heating
   Front Driveway



- Bloxwich
  SIGNAL GROVE
  Two Bedroom End Town House
  Part FurnishedeLoungeeFamily Kitchen
  Bathroome D.GlazingeElectric Heating
  Front GardeneOff Road Parking



#### LIVINGSTONE ROAD

- LIVINGSTONE HOAD

   Two Bedroom Third Floor Flat
   Lounge with raised Dining Area
   Kitchen●Bathroom●Gas Central Heating
   Double Glazing●Off Road Parking



- Waisaii
  TUDOR HOUSE
  One Bedroom Apartment
  Lounge Bathroom Fitted kitchen
  Double glazing Central heating
  Sorry No DHSS

£350 PCM



- SNEYD LANE
- n Semi-Detached Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
   Lounge●Dining Room
   Family Bathroom●Sorry No DHSS
   Double Glazing●Central Heating



MAY STREET

om Terrace

GRAND JUNCTION WAY Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
Lounge
Kitchen
Bathroom
Front & Rear Gardens
Off Road Parking
Sorry NO DHSS, Pets or Smokers

BLOXWICH ROAD

Two Reception Rooms
 KitcheneBathroomeGas Central Heating
 Rear GardeneDHSS Accepted

# Bloxwich WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD • Two Bedroom Terrace Kitchen • Two Reception Rooms • Bathroom • Central Heating • Part Double Glazing • Large Rear Garden • Sorry No DHSS



HOLLEMEADOW AVENUE
 Three Bedroom Semi-Detached



#### Walker Road

- **GUILD COURT**
- Two Bedroom Apartments
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
  BathroomeGas Central Heating
  Double GlazingeAllocated Parking

#### £450 PCM



#### Bloxwich

- FOSTER STREET

  Two Bedroom Terra
  Two Reception Roo
- Double Glazing
   Gas Central Heating
   Fitted Kitchen
   DHSS Accepted
  - £425 PCM



### Bloxwich HARRISON STREET



£375 PCM

£300 PCM



BARRACKS LANE

• One Bedroom Flat

Lounge

Kitchen

Bathroom

Double Glazing

Electric Heating

DHSS Accepted

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Modern Bathroom

Gas Central Heating

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Four Bedroom Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Further Separate Lounge, Further Separate Lounge (Further Chen Plan Kitchen') Diner, Utility Arc, Four Double Bedrooms With Built-in Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, C/ Heating, D/Glazing, Garage, Generous Rear Garden And Off Road Parking.



Bungalow Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, itchen/Diner loor Shower Room, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, C/ Heating, D/Glazing, Rear Garden, Garage & Driveway.



Bedroom Three Storey End Terraced Property Having Entrance Porch Having Entrance Porch Hallway, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C, Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility, Master With Fitted Wardrobes & Shower, Family Bathroom, Study, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway, MUST VIEW.



Presented Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Feature Conservatory, Three Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Enclosed Rear Garden. Located Close To Local Amenities, Schools And Transport Links. ented Three Bed Fransport Links.





CHESTER CLOSE, WILLENHALL

stended Stylish Detached Property
Comprising Of Porch,
Lounge, Spacious
Modern Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms,
Bathroom With Jacuzzi
Bath, D/Glazing, C/
Heating, Enclosed Rear
Garden. Close To Local
Schools, Transport
Links And Amenities.
Must View.



OIEO £125,000

n

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Town House On
The Much Sought
After Squires Grove
Development In New
nvention Having
Spacious Lounge,
Kitchen/Diner, Ground
Floor W.C, Master
With En-Suite, Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garder & Driveway



DIBBLE CLOSE, WILLENHALL

ell Presented Three Bed Mid Town House laving Entrance Hall, Kitchen Diner, Family Bathroom, Separate W.C, C/Heating, D/ Glazing, Parking To The Rear, Ideal FTB Or Buy To Let.



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Comprising Of communal Entrance lall, Private Hallway pacious Lounge, litchen/Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, And Allocated Parking. Being Close To Good Schools, Transport Links And Amenities.

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£82,000



or Bed Ground Floor Flat Having trance Hall, Lounge, Fitted tchen, Two Double Bedrooms, mily Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing Heating, Rear Garden & Secure



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PARK AVENUE, WILLENHALL

£89,995





SNEYD HALL RD, BLOXWICH



QUIRES GATE RD, WILLENHALL ern Fitted Kitchen. Open Plan unge. Two Double Bedro nily Bathroom, C/Heating, D/ zing & Allocated Parking. Ideal



STROUD AVENUE, WILLENHALL



BENTLEY LANE, WILLENHALL



UPLANDS ROAD, WILLENHAL

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DEVON ROAD, WILLENHALL ng Entrance Hall, Lounge

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W.C., Lounge, Two Bedrooms, En-



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RIDING WAY, SHORT HEATH



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WILLENHALL RD, W'TON all Presented, Modern, Three all Presented, Modern, Three orey Town House Having Entranc Illway, Ground Floor W.C., Family unge, Spacious Kitchen Diner, ree Double Bedrooms, Two With Suite, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off

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WOODSIDE WAY, SHORT HEATH Well Presented Extended Two Bedroom Semi Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen Diner, Two

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WOODSIDE WAY, SHORT HEATH

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ENSBURY CLOSE, WILLENHALL



GLASTONBURY CRES, BLOXWICH



£151.995



LITTLE ISLAND DR, WILLENHALL

storey Three Bed Semi ed Property Comprising Of e Hallway, Sitting Room/ m Three, Ground Floor W.C, , Kitchen Diner, Two Double ms, En-Suite Shower Room, Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/



ABERFORD CL, WILLENHALL ive Bed Semi Detached Having nve Bed Semi Detached Having counge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining toom, Family Bathroom, Separate shower Room, D/Glazing, C/ leating, Integral Garage, Front Rear Gardens. Cul-De-Sac coation



ROEBUCK GLADE, WILLENHALL Well Presented One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat Comprising Of ounge, Modern Re-Fitted Kitchen,

Double Bedroom, Re-Fitted Show Room, D/ Glazing, Private Garden and Garage. Must View!





WOODLANDS HSE, SHORT HEATH
Two Bed Ground Floor Luxury
Apartment Comprising Of Entrance
Hallway, Large Lounge/Diner, Fitted
Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms,
Bathroom. C/Heatine, D/Glazine, Good



CHURCHILL RD, BENTLEY



BAYNTON ROAD, WILLENHALL Recently Refurbished Three Bedroom Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating (where specified) And Integral Garage.



DILLOWAYS LN, PORTOBELLO
Extended Three Bed Semi Detached
Property Comprising Of Entrance
Porch, Spacious Lounge, Kitchen
Diner, Ground Floor W.C, Three
Bedraome Family Restroom C/













# Motoring

**Compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters** 

# Performance and economy in a Mercedes

DRIVING a good-looking or arresting car often attracts admiring glances. Occasionally, the attention can be unwelcome.

Here's a case in point.
I rented a house in the south of France for a holiday earlier this year and drove down in a Mercedes CLA.

a Mercedes CI.A.
What a lovely trip it was going to be. And indeed it was, except for one incident on my way out just south of Lyon.
I was driving along a dual carriageway and overtook a rather battered looking small French car. The vehicle then proceeded to overtake mine and its occupants gestured for me to pull over.
Suspicious of their motives, I immediately took advantage of the car's power to leave

Suspicious of their motives, I immediately took advantage of the car's power to leave others standing and left them well behind.

I was driving the CLA 220 CDI, the only diesel model available, which has excellent in-gear acceleration, as I discovered. This is especially true in sport mode, which I quickly engaged, where the throttle response and gearshifts from the dual-clutch gearbox are sharp indeed. It will also get up to 62mph in 8.1 seconds.

Aside from needing that speed of response, this is a car that loves cruising around town and eating up those hundreds of miles very comfortably when driving through France. And when you get stuck in the holiday traffic on the bottlenecks to the sun, the stop/start saves you plenty of fuel.

sun, the stop/start saves you plenty of fuel. And speaking of fuel, for a car of this size and

### **By Sharon Walters**

capability, consumption is very healthy and gives you more money to spend on wine to bring back.

On the motorway run I got close to 60mpg

bring back.

On the motorway run I got close to 60mpg
on the journey there and again on the way
back with a boot full of Provencal rose.

Add low CO2 emissions to the economy
and it is an attractive option for company car
drivers. And whon winding through the bills drivers. And when winding through the hills of Provence the car, with its accurate steering, is very sporty with low-roll cornering and keen front-end bite giving a very enjoyable ride.

#### Combination

There's no denying that it is a striking car with a combination of short overhangs, a 'pushy' front, sharp creases and a gently sloping roofline. It looks great from nearly every angle.

Two trim levels are available in the UK. Top-spec AMG Sport models have five-spoke AMG sloys, a silver pin grille and slightly deeper bodywork and the entry-level Sport, as driven by me, is attractive enough.

Inside it's as styling a low seating position sports seats giving a low seating position.

sports seats giving a low seating position that adjusts every which way to get the perfect position for every driver, plus quality materials and finish. There are several

driving assistance systems (some standard and some options) which reduce the driver's workload.

Standard-fit features for the coupé include Attention Assist – drowsiness detection (and that worked with me after a long stint behind the wheel with me thinking I'll just go on to the next services when I really did need to take a break) and radar-based Collision Prevention Assist with adaptive Collision Prevention Assist with adaptive Brake Assist.

Collision Prevention Assist with adaptive Brake Assist.

If the warnings don't work this latter feature combines with Distronic Plus to become Collision Prevention Assist Plus, incorporating an additional function.

When a danger of collision persists and the driver fails to respond, the system brakes at speeds of up to 124mph, reducing the severity of collisions with slow or stationary vehicles.

The system also brakes in response to stationary vehicles at a speed of up to 19mph and is able to prevent rear-end collisions at speeds of up to 12mph. And safety is more and more becoming the name of the game when choosing which car to go for. Established assistance systems, such as Adaptive Highbeam Assist and the Lane Tracking package with Blind Spot and Lane Keeping Assist, are also available for the CLA.

My conclusion? It's an excellent motor-

My conclusion? It's an excellent motor-..., concussion? It's an excellent motor-way cruiser, likes the town, loves the country and has a nice balance between performance and economy. Prices start at £24,355 on the road.



When winding through the hills its accurate steering is sporty





Astriking car and looks great from every angle

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# **Motoring**

# Award for the all-new Forester from Subaru

SUBARU UK's best-selling model, the Subaru Forester, has been named 'Mid Range SUV of the Year' by 4x4 Maga-

Subjecting the new Forester to a wide range of tests both on- and off-road, 4x4 Magazine awarded the Forester with class honours in one of

Forester with class honours in one of the hardest-fought categories in its annual '4x4 of the Year' issue. Commenting on the Forester's victory, Nigel Fryatt, editor of 4x4 Mag-azine, said: "Subaru's latest Forester impressed us both on and off road. This version is fresh, good-looking and a great drive. It has 'good for its class'

approach and departure angles and with the automatically controlled X-Mode system, the Forester maintains its competent off-road ability and bad weather credentials. That it is also great to drive on the road is the bonus that grabbed the class victory."

The Forester builds on the model's established reputation as a tough, likeable and highly capable SUV. At the same time, it offers improved performance, safety and efficiency and a more spacious and better appointed cabin.

Sales of the Forester are up 75% year on year against 2012. The petrol turbo XT has been in particularly high demand among the Subaru faithful bucking the trend for strong diesel SUV

sales - with its 240ps 2.0-litre tur-

sales – with its 240ps 2.0-litre tur-bocharged direct-injection petrol engine and clever X-Mode hill descent system.

The new model is also available with Subaru's latest 2.0-litre petrol and diesel Boxer engines, with all versions featuring Subaru's trademark sym-metrical All-wheel drive as standard.
Paul Tunieliffe managing director.

metrical All-wheel drive as standard. Paul Tunnicilife, managing director of Subaru UK, said: "We are delighted with this recognition. The Forester has always been popular with owners who need a car that is highly accomplished off-road but also entertaining on it, and the decision by 4x4 Magazine's expert judges is testament to the car's varied abilities."

ŠKODA

# Four grades all packed with high levels of kit



The new Nissan Qashqai, on sale in January next year, has a choice of two petrol and two diesel engines

FOLLOWING its recent glitzy London unveiling, Nissan has now released pricing and specification details for its hotly anticipated latest gen-

eration Qashqai.

When the mid-size SUV goes on sale in January prices will start from £17,595 and rise to £27,845, and buyers will have a choice of four trim

Nissan's engineers have also done much to improve the car's green credentials, with the result being an engine line-up spanning the 99g/km to 132g/km CO2 range. Entry level Visia cars benefit from a generous amount of kit, including auto air-conditioning, hill start assist, cruise control and a large colour info-

cruise control and a large colour into-tainment screen.

Acenta-badged models gain the likes of dual-zone air-con, leather for the steering wheel and gear lever, larger alloy wheels and a tyre pressure moni-toring system.

alloy wheels and a tyre pressure moni-toring system.

Both the Visia and Acenta models come with the option of a Smart Vision Pack (£450) that adds Nissan's advanced Safety Shield system among other driver aids. Designed to enhance the safety of occupants, the pack incor-porates Front Collision Avoidance and Traffic Sign Recognition.

Moving up to the Acenta Premium grade adds digital radio, a rear view parking camera and sensors, a panoramic sunroof, keyless ignition

panoramic sunron, keyiess iginuon and lane departure warning. The flagship Tekna models add all-rond parking sensors, part leather seats, LED headlights, a seven-inch infotainment screen and 19-inch

infotainment screen and 19-inch alloys.

A pair of petrol and diesel engines will be available from launch, all boasting fuel-saving stop-start technology. Diesel fans can choose between a 109bhp 1.5 unit and a 128bhp 1.6 motor. Petrol options initially run to a 1.2 113bhp motor and more powerful 148bhp 1.6 unit.

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#### SPORT

# Late goal leaves the Pics out of points

Blyth Spartans 3
Rushall Olympic 2
DESPITE a spirited recovery from 2-0 down, to draw level, Rushall Olympic made the long journey home point-less after a Paul Robinson goal three minutes from time gave Blyth Spartans all

time gave blyin opartans an three.

On 19 minutes Spartans went ahead when Nathan Buddle got the final touch after a goalmouth scramble following a corner.

Three minutes later the home side had a great chance to double their lead when they were awarded a penalty but Chris Gemmell saved Craig Hubbard's shot. Five minutes before the break Dele Adebola headed over and two minutes into

break Dele Adebola headed over and two minutes into the second half the home side doubled their advantage when Daniel Maguire took advantage.

The visitors kept battling away and pulled a goal back when Stan Mugisha lobbed the advancing keeper and with just eleven minutes remaining they drew level remaining they drew level when Gavin Caines equalised from a penalty. The home side were

The home side were reduced to 10 a minute later when Aaron Wearmouth saw red but three minute from time the home side hit the winner when Paul Robinson fired home.

Stratford.

put over the conversion. This sive successful kick of the game, converting all three tries and all five of his penalty attempts.

This would prove to be a vital contribution by the time the final whistle was blown.

The visitors had already created chances in the first five minutes, but wayward passes and poor communication saw two try scoring opportunities wasted. The hosts, in contrast, were very clinical in securing their first score.

clinical in securing their first score.

A powerful drive from a lineout resulted in prop forward Baldwin getting the touchdown.

Walsall were in control of the game for long periods of the first half.

Young then kicked an easy

the first half.
Young then kicked an easy penalty for the hosts to increase their lead.
Walsall then began to convert their pressure into points with Weston kicking four penalties during the next 12 minutes to establish an 8-12 lead.

an 8-12 lead.
Good runs by the back row of Halbert, Hughes and Hickman forced Stratford to transgress on two occasions. Good tackles by Benson and Naylor resulted in further penalties. The hosts however, reduced the deficit just before the final whistle with Young kicking a penalty after Walsall dropped a pass near their own line.
The onening five minutes

# Youngsters get time with rugby stars

LUCKY youngsters from the StreetGames project in Willenhall spent the after-noon training with England's Rugby League World Cup squad.

World Cup squad.

The England team, who are preparing for the all important Rugby League World Cup semi-final match this Saturday, invited six of the StreetGames Willenhall project in the West Midlands to sit in on their official media conference at Loughborough University. borough University.

borough University.

Brothers Ryan and James
Tamilio, Ogulcan Unal,
Brad John, Adam Walters
and Alex Devey all gained an
exclusive 'behind the scenes'
afternoon with the England
players

players.

The youngsters were given the opportunity to put their questions to the squad before heading out to the pitch for a training session, picking up some top skills and techniques from the world class players.

StreetGames has been working with the RFL deliver Rugby Pop-Up Clubs to young people living in some of the UK's most disadvantaged communities.

#### Jones will be against Dolan

WOLVERHAMPTON'S Wayne Jones will meet Brendan Dolan in the first round of the televised PDC Players Championship finals after the final line-up was decided

decided. 'The Wanderer' finished 31st in the Pro Tour Order of Merit to seal his spot at Butlins in Minehead for the top-32 event later this month, live on ITV4.

Jones also competed in the

live on ITV4.

Jones also competed in the last standard PDC Players Championship tournaments of the year at the Barnsley Metrodome last weekend.

Joe Cullen put him out 6-3 in the first round on Saturday.

in the first round on Saturday, but Jones rebounded to overcome Terry Temple 6-5. He then lost 6-4 to Bernd Roith.

# **Good show without reward for Wolves**

Wolves 0 Brentford 0
DESPITE the lack of goals
Wolves were pretty good.
Brentford were as pugnacious

and strong an opponent as they have possibly faced this season. Wolves' opposition came with a big following high on the octane of a streak of six successive wins.

of a streak of six successive wins. Once more, as one senior Molineux official observed, the sense of the team having to cope with the equivalent of 46 third round FA Cup ties was thick in the air.

At times, Wolves gave us glimpses of what they are striving

WALSALL are proving to be the inform team in Midlands One West after securing a sixth

successive victory with a last gasp score at

The final action of the game resulted in Walsall's captain Steve Halbert going over for the match-winning score. Walsall's place kicker, Roger Weston, then stepped up and put over the conversion. This was to be his eighth succes-

Rugby

be a disaster for Walsall as the hosts scored two tries. A

the hosts scored two tries. A clearance kick was charged down and fly half Young collected the ball for the first and then a kindly bounce of the ball resulted in lock forward Bonner crossing wide out.

The visitors pooled with

wide out.

The visitors replied with some powerful plays and although a lineout drive was stopped, No.8 Daniel Simpson forced his way over from the resulting scrum. Weston's conversion closed the gap to 21-19.

Another Walsall error, this time from the restart, pre-

Another Waisanerron, ame time from the restart, presented Stratford with another score. No.8 Pritchard went over for their bonus point try. Kennedy's conversion extended their lead.

extended their lead.

Simpson and Wootton instigated attacks that gave the visitors another scrum.

Once again, the power of their scrum was evident before Simpson gathered the ball and went over for his second try.

ball and went over for his second try.

The tension was very evident during the closing stages as Kennedy's penalty gave Stratford a 31-26 advantage. But Weston replied with a 40 metre kick before the dramatic finale.

The Walsall captain broke through the defence for a

for as they controlled significant portions of the contest.

But if the sure authority Jackett and his players are seeking remains in sight, it is not yet within their grasp.

Knitted
Still the team gives the impression of being staffed by 11 well-drilled footballers who are largely over-qualified for this division and know where they should be on the pitch and what they want to do at any given time.
But it has yet to be knitted together in a truly convincing Knitted

together in a truly convincing manner. They remain unyielding

and immensely strong in defence and while that bedrock is sound, Jackett can tinker away until his heart's content.

For this game, the head coach gave the impression of meeting fire with fire, selecting as an attacking first XI as we have seen all season.

They will certainly look forward to seeing more of Jackett's latest recruit after a debut from Michael Jacobs that probably amounted to a better

Last minute score has

six appeal for Walsall

and look what happened to him. Jacobs has a pleasing soft touch, is quick enough to trouble full-backs either side – and Brentford were particularly strong in this position – and is not afraid of hard work.

Jackett had every reason to be delighted with the winger's start and there is confidence that, like Henry, there will be even better to

As has become one of this season's trademarks, Jacobs swapped at regular 15-minute intervals with Bakary Sako who

continues to conduct this campaign on the form zig-zag of indispensable and infuriating.

Against Brentford he veered towards the erratic and indulgent, a reminder that the team has to put up with an awful lot in return for sometimes very little.

But in terms of controlling the rhythm of performance, the central midfield combination is rightly seen as vital and in the combo of Kevin McDonald and David Edwards, Jackett hopes to have the blend of presence, passing and energy to expand the team's capacity to dominate.

# Etheridge is looking like future champion

PLECK Amateur Boxing Club believe it's only a matter of time before they crown their next national champion after Liam Etheridge reached a final. Etheridge took out hot favourite, Reece Mould, in his National Ambition Boxing Championship semi-final to stand within a fight of the title

Boxing Championship semifinal to stand within a fight of the title.

Three-time national champion Mould, from Doncaster Plant Works ABC, was left bamboozled by fierce offence from the opening bell on Sunday.

They clashed at 54kg in Class B – for boxers born in 1994 and 1995 – at the Sherburn Leisure Centre, Durham.

Straight shots rattled Mould and set out Etheridge's stall in the first round, but the West Midlander was forced onto the back-foot in the second. A warning for hitting to the back of the head in the third and last session perhaps cost Mould the fight, with Etheridge now looking nailed on.

Trainer Terry Leonard said: "Take it from me, Liam will win the title now. I had the same feeling when Christopher Keane boxed for us in 2009.

"He went on to win the senior ABAs at super heavy-

"He went on to win the senior ABAs at super heavy-weight that year."

# Star knock the fire out of Dragons

Lichfield & Walsall District football League

football League
Premier
Aldridge Town 1 BurntwoodAlbion 2; Erdington
Star 8 Burntwood Dragons 1
League One
Boney Hay 0 Pelsal Villa
Colts 5; Cannock Wood 4 AC
Lions 3; Stonnall FC 1
Rbillscomm 4

Lions 3; Stor B'hillscomm. 4

League two

League two
Green Rock Tavern 2 Paradise FC 0; Longdon Chet 2
Trident FC 4; Ros Park 1
Swan FC 5; Trent Valley
Rovers 1 Duke of Wellington

League Three

Boatmans Rest 3 Walsall Phoenix 0; Dog FC 2 Hussey Arms 1 League Four

Wych Elm Fc 4 Eximius
Warriors 1; Queens FC 2
Oak Park Rangers 13
Jack Donnelly Cup

Round Three Alma FC 3 Burntwood

Star 0
Lichfield Charity Cup
Round Two
Freemans FC 5 Pelsall
Villa FC 7 (act & pen)
Sam Kimberley Cup
Round Three
Dosthill Rangers 0 Crystal
Fountain 5; Hazelslade 7
Cellar Door 6 (act & pen);
Mill Farm 2 Shelfield FC 4;
Wyrley 5 Bowman 0.

### Victory joy in first leg of cup

WALSALL Seconds had a good win in the first leg of the league cup. They beat Lichfield 25-19 Tries by Rod Dickson, Karl Robinson and Francesco Perozzo. Andy Hawkins kicked a conversion and two penalties with Mitch Carless also kicking a conversion. Walsall Thirds took on Telford Firsts in a friendly. The team performed well but eventually lost 28-7.

Aston Old Eds Cofts 12

Walsall Colts 27

Walsall dominated this game despite having only 14 players. rs. Burton U-15s 19

Walsall captain Steve Halbert makes another strong run in the away game which almost went down to the wire

# Fair result for Wood from game of two halves

own line. fine try converted by
The opening five minutes Weston. This Saturday
of the second half proved to Walsall are at Whitchurch.

Loughborough University 2
Walsall Wood 2
WOOD found themselves in a real game of
two halves, with the visitors well worth
their two goal half-time lead courtesy of a
brace from Joey Butlin, but the home side
came roaring back in the second half and a
goal three minutes from time gave them a
deserved draw.

goal three minutes from time gave them a deserved draw.

Walsall were quickly into their stride, Lewis Taylor Boyce fed Joey Butlin wide right, his cross flashing across the face of the six-yard box.

The reply was immediate, Jack Emmett collecting the ball in the centre circle and playing it through for Tristan Dunkley with Rajaan Gill racing from his line to fly kick clear.

Then on eight minutes Jack Beckett out wide left cut inside and set up Emmett,

Shawn Boothe making a timely challenge. Straight to the other end and Ahmet Bil-gimer won a corner which resulted in Boothe heading just over.

Boothe heading just over.

Craig Hancox ran at the centre of the defence and was fouled on the left of the D which saw Butlin firing the free kick past a flat-footed Brendan Hazlett in the Uni goal

flat-footed Brendan Hazlett in the Uni goal and into the top left hand corner.

Four minutes later it was 2-0 as Andre Gonzales fed Taylor Boyce down the right, he raced to the byeline, hit a far post low cross that found Butlin who calmly buried the ball in the back of the net.

On 36 minutes a long ball forward by Lee Stretton sailed over the home defenders with Hazlett racing from his area to head

with Hazlett racing from his area to head clear from Butlin.

Within a minute of the start of the second half the home side gave themselves a life-

line, Emmett racing clear on the left, his low cross swept home by Jack Poxon. Then on 57 minutes a long high ball into the Wood box was brought down by Beckett, his shot charged down by Boothe.

Harris cut in from the Wood left played a ball back wide to Craig Hancox who collected the return and fired just wide.

Bilgimer won a right wing corner from which a goalmouth scramble developed, but somehow the home side survived as shots rained in from inside the box, before the ball was finally hacked clear.

Back came Beckett, two minutes later he made space on the right, played the ball low

made space on the right, played the ball low into the box and Stretton stabbed the ball inches wide of the left hand post. Bilgimer out on the right worked a neat

one-two with Gonzales but his low cross was blocked for a corner, the ball was only half

time effort was just too high.
With five minutes left Daniel Brennan
powered forward before releasing Dunkley
into the right of the box before Boothe made

an important tackle.
Two minutes let

an important tackle.
Two minutes later Johannes Mueller
found Daniel Partridge wide right, he cut
inside and his rising drive cannoned off the
underside of the bar. Sam Cook was first to
react and fired the equaliser into the roof of
the net.

react and fired the equaliser into the roof of the net.

Then on 89 minutes Gill raced to the right Then is box and stopped a ball going for a corner, his clearance going straight to Dunkley whose 40-yard effort sailed towards the goal, Stretton racing back to head over the angle to save a precious point for Wood that their performance had

**Game of halves** 

Fair result as Wood let the lead slip away
Page 45

Six appeal Last minute score brings reward Page 43



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# Saddlers forwards 'are now marked'

ANDY TAYLOR has warned Walsall's forwards have become "marked men" after they drew a blank at Crawley Town.

The Saddlers were unable to record their third win in a

to record their third win in a

Taylor believes last Taylor believes last Monday's scintillating win over Peterborough United in front of the Sky Sports cameras has alerted the entire division to the prowess of Craig Westcarr, Milan Lalkovic and Romaine Sawrers.

Milan Lalkovic and Romaine Sawyers.

All three failed to hit the heights of that performance on Saturday. Left-back Taylor believes it is up to the rest of the team to pitch in "Nowadays if you have a good game, particularly live on television, teams do their homework," he said. "Crawley will have watched the Peterborough game, focused on what our threats are and then tried to stop them."

stop them.

"If you have a good game as a forward player the next game is going to be more difficult because teams will be aware of the threat and set

aware of the threat and set up to try and stop it.

"Nowadays, there are big numbers of staff at clubs and they do their research to find ways to stop you playing.
He added: "If you have a couple of good games and catch the eye, teams will spot it and try to stop you. It's difficult to try to repeat that week-in, week-out."

### **Fighters in** the medals

WILLENHALL Karate
Academy are celebrating a
haul of medals from a recent
competition.
Fighters from the club
competed in the Elite
Second Open Championships and came home with
12 medals.
The gold medal winners
were sensei Steve O'Gara,
Pavaneet Dhami and
Rohane Takhi.
Silver medal winners were

Pavaneet Dhami and Rohane Takhi. Silver medal winners were Josh Takhi, Angelina Takhi and Callum Totty and the bronze winners were Molly Jones, Spencer Neljandi, Tyler Williams, Charlie Foster, Josh Samujh and Carl Lodge with Callum Totty in the Pairs event.

O'Gara said: "It was some of children's first competition and they were very nervous but with all their training, they went on to make themselves proud and are very much looking forward to more opportunities."

# Villa claw back from a two goal deficit

Albion 2 Villa 2
THIS was a draw which felt like a defeat for Albion but which felt like victory for Villa.
On such a delicate balance, the 161st derby between these great old rivals finished with both welded together by the scoreline and in the centre of the Premier League table.

League table.

From the perilous position of a 2-0 deficit inside a dozen minutes dominated by brilliant finishing from Shane Long, Villa clawed their way back.

It was an escape Albion probably facilitated by spurning opportunities to finish off their closest neighbours. In the inquest

head coach Steve Clarke will conduct, the two glaring openings which escaped Stephane Sessegnon will assume particular

Stephane Sessegnon will assume particular anguish.
But whatever reservations persist about Paul Lambert's redesign of Villa, the team's willing spirit is as undeniable as the threat they can pose when Christian Benteke, Gabby Agbonlahor and Andreas Weimann come together Karim El Ahmadi and Ashley Westwood duly provided the goals that cancelled out Long's outstanding couplet—leaving the region's struggle for Premier

League supremacy unanswered. Historically, Villa's edge is underscored by a 74-52 win record in their favour.

Lambert opted for a three-man back line and flooded midfield but it was pulled apart by the rampaging Long and Albion's ability to pick out the Irishman from deep.

Long's first goal, in the fourth minute, saw him split Nathan Baker and Ciaran Clark. One more touch set him up for a left-foot shot drilled beyond Brad Guzan – The Hawthorns will be a fortunate venue if itsees a more sublime piece of finishing this season.

Not that Long's second was too shabby. A League supremacy unanswered. Historically, Villa's edge is underscored by a 74-52 win record in their favour.

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# Pegasus soar over \_ockmen

Pegasus 7 Willenhall Town 0

Willenhall Town 0
WILLENHALL simply had no answer to the clinical finishing of their West Midlands Premier hosts.
The home side broke the deadlock when a sweeping move finished with Ben Price firing home.
The Lockmen battled well and created a couple of half chances while Booth did well on three occasions to prevent a goal before the killer goal arrived just before half time.
A quick counter-attack down the right saw the ball fed inside and Kane Kahnki fired into the net.
Cory Hyde made no mistake when he rolled a well-placed shot right in the corner on 58 minutes.
Richard Harrison raced on to another through-ball on 65 minutes before he fired into the corner, then a ball across the defensive line from the left saw Hyde steal on to the ball and again he finished well for the fifth.
With five minutes left, Jack Lewis steered a header home from a cross before Hyde got his hat-trick with a minute left when he was played through a tired defence before rounding Booth and guiding home for the seventh.

# LACK OF GOALS IS BACK ON AGENDA

Crawley Town 0 Walsall 0

ARE the Saddlers going to score enough goals? It's a question which has reared its head countless times this season and is now sneaking back on to the agenda.

Dean Smith's side were denied victory at Broadfield Stadium by a com-bination of misfortune, poor finishing and good

goalkeeping.
On another day, Craig
Westcarr would have had a
hat-trick.

hat-trick.

Midfielder James Baxendale had stressed before the game the need to keep picking up points to keep pace with the division's top six and this very much felt like two points dropped.

If the Saddlers narrowly miss out on the play-off come May, this will be the type of game they'll look back on with regret.

#### Digging

But before digging into why victory wasn't achieved, it's vital to note this was also a day when football was put into perspective.

The death of Bert Chambers on Thursday, father to Adam and James, clearly came as a huge shock to the whole club.

Walsall naid their respects

whole club.

Walsall paid their respects in typically dignified fashion, with every player wearing a black armband, while the squad held a minute's silence shortly after the final whistle.

The popular twins' decision to play and the fact they put in their usual committed performances spoke volumes for their character.

This was a zame the Sad-

This was a game the Sad-

#### Football

dlers will feel they should have won and the analysis of why they didn't must start with Craig Westcarr, who simply had "one of those days" in front of goal.

The striker was incredibly unlucky with a shot which struck the post but stayed out and also squandered the best chance of the game when he blazed over from just eight yards out after being brilliantly set-up by Milan Lalkovic.

Home keeper Paul Jones also proved his nemesis.

It may seem harsh to criticise Westcarr, who is enjoying a largely excellent season. But the Saddlers have raised the bar several times already this campaign and when they are deemed to have fallen short, questions get asked.

The claim Westcarr does not score enough has been rendered somewhat bogus by his eight goals to date.

For the third game running Smith named the same starting XI as he decided against a return to the three-man central mideld which has been so

the three-man central mid-field which has been so suc-

tield which has been so suc-cessful away from home. It was a decision which had little impact defensively, as for the third game in a row the Saddlers kept a clean sheet relatively easily.



Craig Westcarr is denied as Crawley keeper - and man of the match - Paul Jones saves at his feet

### **Blox haunted by** run of bad form

Leamington 6 Bloxwich 3 ANOTHER disappointing performance from Bloxwich Men's First team meant their horrid run of form con-

Bloxwich looked out of sorts but linked up well occa-sionally to score two good short corners from Matt Baldwin and Eddie Mar-rocco. Adam Baldwin scored Bloxwich's third goal.

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